

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School



RE POLICY

MISSION STATEMENT

GROWING IN FAITH

*Our vision at St Catherine's Catholic Primary School
and all we do, and aspire to be,
is centred on the love, life and teaching of Jesus,
and rooted in the faith of the Catholic Church.*

AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE

*Our aim is to build a loving, happy, safe and welcoming school where
everyone has the opportunity and support to recognise, celebrate and
develop
their God given gifts and talents, learning in a creative and friendly school
family.*

LEARNING FOR LIFE

*Journeying together with each other,
we work in harmony
to provide outstanding Catholic Education
for all our pupils preparing them to fulfil their mission
to the world in which we live.*

Policy Adopted: October 2021

To be reviewed: July 2023

This policy is correct as at the date of the policy. However, any information documented within may be superseded by any new information received from the LA or the Diocese after the date of the policy and which will be automatically adopted with immediate effect.

ST CATHERINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
RE POLICY

At St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, our aim in Religious Education is to develop pupils' knowledge, understanding of and ability to respond to our faith. Religious Education takes pride of place in the school curriculum. It complements and enhances experiences which children gain in other areas of their academic, social and spiritual development.

Good learning in religious education is about:

- capturing each child's innate capacity for awe and wonder
- offering a climate where Christ can reveal himself
- affirming and celebrating the growth of faith
- enabling pupils to think spiritually, ethically, critically and theologically
- the mystery of God and of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit - recognising the presence of Christ in their own lives and experiences
- listening, responding to and valuing each child's contributions
- adhering to a curriculum in accordance with the rites, practices and teachings of the Catholic Church
- Catholic Life, Collective Worship and Prayer Life (please see collective worship policy)

Pupils will also develop an understanding of:

- other faiths and cultures
- be encouraged to look beyond the external features of Religion and consider what it means to belong to that faith

Religious Education is provided in six specific ways:

1. Specific R.E. lessons
2. School assemblies
3. Masses, celebrations and liturgies
4. Annual Spirituality Weeks
5. Spiritual Journaling
6. The manner in which staff interact within School

Come and See

'Come and See' is our RE Scheme of Work which is used by all schools in our Diocese. 'Come and See' is an invitation to exploration and a promise of life for everyone. Teaching guidelines, approaches and principles are provided in a teacher book for each year group.

Pupils will be encouraged to develop attitudes of:

- respect, tolerance, moral responsibility, empathy, compassion, wonder, commitment and perseverance

Pupils will learn/develop the skills of:

- prayer and reflection
- empathy
- analysis, evaluation and interpretation
- questioning
- research
- investigation
- reasoning
- making connections
- using distinctive religious language - religious literacy
- collaboration
- speaking and listening
- enquiry and response

Learners will be confident to

- ask deep fundamental ('big') questions and search for answers
- work independently and collaboratively
- inwardly reflect and be willing to share ideas
- use a wide range of resources to enhance their learning and seek out answers
- use a variety of methods to record learning

Teachers will:

- create opportunities for prayer and reflection and worship
- commit 10% of curriculum time to R.E.
- follow the 'Come and See' scheme of work
- include a study of other faiths twice a year. Judaism in the Autumn Term and Hinduism in the Summer Term
- plan for R.E. lessons using the RE planning format
 - the learning intention
 - the activity/task
 - differentiated Success Criteria, using the 'driver' words
 - link with Theological Stepping Stones
- ensure that all R.E. lessons begin with a prayer and end with prayers based around the key words for the Topic
- create a climate that stimulates thinking and celebrates achievement by:
 - posing open ended questions that challenge pupils
 - responding to pupils' answers in a way that extends thinking
 - providing opportunities for independent and collaborative working
 - providing a wide range of resources to support and enrich learning (visits, ICT/internet, outside speakers)
 - deploying Teaching Assistants to support, enhance and capture learning
 - encouraging pupils to record their learning in a variety of ways
- continue to be learners themselves

The RE leader will monitor the quality of learning through:

- lesson observations/drop Ins
- scrutiny of work
- analysis of planning
- pupil conferencing and questionnaires (also carried out by Ethos Governors)
- quality of the learning climate through observations of RE displays, prayer tables and teacher's feedback
- provide oral or written feedback to support professional learning and school development
- assess professional learning needs and make recommendations to the SLT
- share planned learning and RE with parents on a termly basis

Feedback and Assessment:

Feedback will be used to reinforce learning, stimulate further questioning and identify next steps

- EYFS - oral feedback and highlighting of the Learning Intention
- Years 1 & 2 - highlighting of Success Criteria and one Next Step marking per Topic
- Years 3 & 4 - highlighting of Success Criteria and one Next Step, one Self and one Peer (supported/modelled) marking per Topic
- Years 5 & 6 - highlighting of Success Criteria and one Next Step, one Self and one Peer marking per Topic

Teachers will assess for learning in a variety of ways and at appropriate times make summative assessments of pupils' levels of knowledge of understanding and skills in line with Diocesan guidelines. At the end of each academic year, an overall level is identified for each child. The End of Year Report to Parents/Carers contains information relating to the child's progress in R.E. over the past year relating to attainment, effort and progress made.

Display:

Within the classroom, display is used to enhance the area to encourage children to reflect upon the theme they are currently focusing upon. Key Topic words form an integral part of the display as well as images to foster enlightenment and stimulation. We use specific colours to reinforce the Church's Liturgical Season.

Religious Education at St Catherine's Catholic Primary School seeks to immerse our pupils in the Catholic Faith, encouraging them in their lifelong journey.

This Policy is in keeping with the following:

- School Mission Statement
- The Teaching and Learning Policy
- Spirituality, Prayer Life and Collective Worship Policy

Review date: July 2023