

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School



'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' – Matthew 7 v 17

Religious Education Policy

Agreed: March 2025

Review: March 2027

Introduction:

Religious Education is a statutory requirement governed by the requirements of the 1993 Education Act and subsequent legislation and by guidance from the DfE and the Diocesan Board of Education. Religious Education is an essential element in children's experience and understanding of ethical and spiritual matters. The school promotes an understanding of local community cohesion and seeks to draw upon the rich resources and heritage provided by St Andrews' Church as well as other places of worship in the area.

The Church of England's Statement of Entitlement

This outlines the aims and expectations for Religious Education in Church of England Schools and guides our school's approach. It begins by stating, "Religious Education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10) It will help to educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live well together."

The Church of England's Vision for Education: Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good, continues, "Such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person."

Our School's Vision:

Our principal aim is to engage pupils in enquiring into big questions arising from the study of religion, belief, philosophy and ethics. In so doing, Religious Education will support pupils' own personal moral, philosophical, ethical and spiritual development and promote respect for others.

Intent - Curriculum:

In line with the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement (2019), at Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School, we aim to:

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.

- To enable pupils to know about and understand other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, and to appreciate the diversity, continuity and change within those religions and world views
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Curriculum balance and time

As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School, Christianity will be the majority religion studied and will include at least 50% of Religious Education curriculum time. Dedicated weekly lessons, in classes, will work on explicit objectives. This will aim to be close to 10% but will be no less than 5% in both Key Stages 1 and 2.

Implementation - Teaching and Learning:

As a Voluntary Controlled (VC) School, we use Units of Study from the agreed Awareness, Mystery and Value (AMV) syllabus, in accordance with Somerset Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (Somerset SACRE).

Religious education may be taught in a 'whole class' setting but with flexibility to allow for discussion, questioning and reflection in small groups and individually

A variety of creative teaching approaches are encouraged:

- Teacher presentations, role play, drama and story telling
- Questions and answer sessions, discussions and debates
- Individual and group research
- Photographs, pictures and maps
- IT, film, radio and websites to research and communicate ideas.

The Kapow Primary Religion and worldviews curriculum covers a number of organised worldviews with increasing depth and breadth. In line with government guidance and Census 2021 information, the curriculum will 'reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.'

Exploring concepts through an enquiry based approach, children will investigate a variety of worldviews, including but not limited to:



Christian



Muslim



Hindu



Sikh



Jewish



Buddhist



Humanist

EYFS

Pupils work on the units of learning: Special Me, Special Times, Special Places and Special Stories.

Key Stage 1

Pupils learn about Christianity, Judaism, other faith worldviews and non-religious worldviews

Units include: How did the world begin and Why Should We Care for the World?

Key Stage 2

Pupils learn about Christianity and other world religions (including Judaism, Islam and Hinduism) and non-religious worldviews.

Units include: Where do our morals come from? What makes some texts sacred? Why do people have to stand up for what they believe in? Why does religion look different around the world?

Impact:

Recording: Children's learning is recorded in a variety of ways. When appropriate, children use individual RE books, which show progress across each key stage.

Assessment Teachers assess each child's knowledge and responses in Religious Education. We use knowledge quizzes in each year group and an additional enquiry question response paragraph in KS2.

Reporting At the end of each school year, the progress of each child in all aspects of their learning, including Religious Education, is reported to parents in an annual written report.

Monitoring The subject leader will assist the Headteacher in monitoring curriculum overviews and medium term plans, with respect to evident learning during work scrutinies, learning walks, feedback from pupils about their learning and discussion with colleagues. In accordance with Section 48 of the 2005 Education Act, monitoring will also occur through Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

Arrangements for the withdrawal of pupils from Religious Education. and Collective Worship:

All parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education and School Collective Worship. Information on these arrangements are clear on our website and parents are invited to speak with our Headteacher. There will always be opportunity for parents to discuss the contents of the R.E. curriculum with their class teacher, R.E. coordinator or Headteacher, should they have concerns.

Conclusion:

As a church school, we strive to create a stimulating environment where we nurture the spiritual and our moral beliefs of everyone in our school community. In approving this policy, the governors have considered their responsibilities to achieve these aims.