



Policy area	Curriculum
Policy Title	Religious Education
Policy Leader	Beth Raggett
Policy Date	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2017
Policy reviewed	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2017
Policy Review	July 2020

### **Our Vision**

Through a positive caring environment, we provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential. We embrace Christian values and ensure all children are ready for their next steps.

### **Introduction**

RE is central to the purpose of St Hilda's CE Primary school because, as a church school, we see that the Christian faith informs all aspects of our life together and commits us to a search for truth.

RE at St Hilda's explores how individuals and communities make meaning and sense of their lives through the major religions of the world. It enables pupils to know about, understand and respond to the important and ultimate questions of life. RE is taught in such a way that it inspires pupils to explore, develop and affirm their own faith and values and have respect for the faith, beliefs and values of others. It is not the practice of this school to evangelise to or seek to convert children.

### **Aims**

At this school, RE supports and strengthens the vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. The importance placed on the development of the whole child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in the RE curriculum

Specifically, RE aims to enable pupils of all abilities and stages of development to:

- reflect theologically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society;
- reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief;
- see how the truth of Christianity is relevant today;
- understand the challenge faced by Christians in today's pluralist and post-modern society;
- develop the skills to handle the Bible text;
- recognise that faith is based on commitment to a particular way of understanding God and the world;
- begin to develop their own commitments, beliefs and values;
- develop a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious;
- experience the breadth and variety of the Christian community;
- engage in thoughtful dialogue with other faiths and traditions;
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour;
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world;
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition.

The skills used to achieve these are through **Experience** to investigate and reflect; **Enquire** to express and share ideas; **Encounter** to empathise; **Explore** to apply skills and **Engage** to evaluate.

### **Legal Framework**

As a voluntary controlled CE school, the Manchester Diocesan Board of Education Religious Education Syllabus for Church of England Schools is our statutory document for the teaching of RE.

***A Christian School: one family, learning with love, excelling through faith***



Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from religious education lessons, but as RE is central to the life and identity of St Hilda's CE Primary School, we would ask parents to discuss with the head teacher any reasons they might have for doing this.

### **Teaching and Learning**

- The scheme of work for RE will maintain a balance between the two attainment targets: Learning about Religions and Learning from Religions.

### **Learning about Religion**

We learn about

- God who reveals the truth about himself and humanity through creation, the giving of the law, his action in history and through the prophets;
- God who reveals himself ultimately in Jesus his Son, living among us and dying and rising for us;
- God who reveals himself in his Spirit working in the living faith of the Church experienced through scripture, tradition and reason.

### **Learning from Religion**

We learn from

- an empathetic response to the Christian faith and a critical engagement with it;
- responding personally to the stories and teachings of Jesus Christ;
- examples of Christian living which give priority to the values of unconditional love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, compassion and faith.
- There will be clear learning outcomes for all units of work, based on the appropriate expectations/levels as set out in the RE syllabus.
- The scheme of work will ensure that there is continuity and progression for pupils and opportunities for assessment in both attainment targets.
- A range of teaching and learning activities will ensure that pupils learn effectively and with interest (circle time, drama, music, written work).
- RE will be taught either as a discrete subject and is clearly displayed on each teacher's class timetable.
- A range of visitors will be invited to support the teaching of RE, and where possible, there will be planned visits to places of worship.
- RE will be given at least 5% of curriculum time i.e. 1 hour per week in the foundation stage and key stage 1 and 75 minutes per week in key stage 2.

### **Subject Leadership**

- The RE subject leader will support and monitor the subject and will receive an adequate budget to do this.
- The RE subject leader will ensure that her subject knowledge and expertise are kept up to date by means of regular training.
- The RE subject leader will ensure that staff receive adequate training in the teaching and assessment of RE.
- The RE subject leader will regularly monitor the quality of RE teaching across the school.
- The RE subject leader will liaise with the governor who holds responsibility for RE and they will report regularly to the governing body on progress and attainment in RE.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed regularly. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the RE Co-ordinator and will be based upon discussions with other members of staff, observation of children's work and re-evaluation of teaching plans. The outcome of the review will influence the future school development plan.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_