



*Inspired by joy we grow together as a unique family
who respect, love and forgive each other.*

Religious Education at St Joseph's, Reddish

Our rich curriculum embraces our Catholicity at its heart and complies with the Religious Education Directory requirements.

Children currently follow the 'Come and see' scheme alongside the 'Caritas in Action' programme which looks at the social teachings of the church.

All classes also have planned acts of collective worship on a regular basis. As the children progress through the school they take pleasure in planning these for themselves.

We plan our work in 5 areas along the guidelines of the '5 W's framework'; Word, Worship, Witness, Welfare and Welcome and you can see below a brief overview of each area.

	What this means	An example
Word of God	Listening to and being part of the story of Jesus Christ as the centre of everything in our school and challenging ourselves by the power of his word.	Children learn about stories and passages from the Bible. We promote Gospel values and their relevance to everyday life and living. God's word is central to our faith and the lives we are called to lead as followers of Christ. Scripture is used as a starting point for whole school and class led prayer and worship and Gods word is often the focus of prayer and thought. Prayer and worship session always include Scripture. Peace garden is a place for meditative contemplation as well as worship and words form Scripture inspire the pupils to think deeply.

Welcome	How we put Jesus at the centre of our community and reach out and celebrate the diverse needs of our community.	We "feel the presence of Christ's love in the warmth of our welcome as we open our doors, our hearts and our minds to serve, strengthen and encourage all " who visit or work with our school and Parish community. Everybody is treated with dignity and we reach out with 'open hands' as we live our Mission daily. This can be witnessed in the joy around the school and the respect adults and children show to each other
Welfare	How we cultivate an attitude of love, care and respect for each other in our community.	Our Inclusion practice is evidence that the explicitly Christ centred ethos is loving, creative, compassionate, highly positive and fosters a high level of understanding, empathy, forgiveness and respect for all. There have been no permanent exclusions at the school in years and only a few children have been instructed to take short fixed term exclusions - these exclusions were decided upon in order to plan suitable programmes of support for the child and family. Parents have been fully supportive and included in decision making. The outcomes of this have been highly successful resulting in the children achieving well academically, socially and emotionally.
Worship	Opportunities that we provide to use the Scriptures to celebrate together so we can demonstrate the glory of God in our lives.	Our pupil GIFT team take a lead in preparing pupil prayer groups which enables pupils to be actively prayerful during the significant dates of the liturgical calendar. We are engaged with the Parish in the Sacramental programme and work closely with them to ensure the triangle of home school and Parish support children in their sacramental journey. We have begun weekly Gospel assemblies to which parents are invited and a range of celebrations through the year which involve both parish and family in worshipping together.

<p>Witness</p>	<p>Witnessing the key values of Jesus such as in our Mission statement 'Love one another as I have loved you'. Recognising that is with us in every aspect of school life.</p>	<p>Gospel values are understood and evidenced in school policies and procedures. Scripture is enjoyed in collective and child led worship. The behaviour of pupils is good and often outstanding. In lessons and around school pupils are courteous and considerate. Children at tell us they value the adults who work with them in school and come to school wanting to learn. They feel safe because they know that adults will keep them safe in school. Pupils know about different forms of bullying and are aware of a range of prejudices. The St Joseph's mission statement was decided on by pupils, parents and Governor's: <i>'Inspired by joy we grow together as a unique family who respect, love and forgive each other.'</i></p>
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