



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY 2015

"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full"

Our aims in teaching RE are to help children to:

- Grow in knowledge of and openness to the mystery of God.
- Become familiar with the person, life and teachings of Jesus who reveals face of God and shows what it is to be human.
- Grow in understanding and appreciation of the Word of God and its place in Christianity.
- Grow in experience, knowledge and understanding of the Church, and use its teachings to ensure the welfare of all to ensure peace and justice in the world.
- Prepare for, participate in and appreciate liturgical prayer and worship.
- Develop a moral awareness as they reflect upon the human condition, their own and others' lives in the light of the Christian message and so bear witness to Gospel values.

Through sound teaching, which reflects children's and young people's capacity for learning and growing our RE programme will:

- Be informed by a range of teaching styles and the whole variety of ways in which pupils learn, and will enable teachers to select from or devise appropriate learning experiences.
- Affirm all pupils' value and worth, build on their own experience of living relationships and contribute to the development of self-esteem.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to recognise appreciate and develop their talents and skills.
- Promote the development of independence and autonomy in children and young people so that they are encouraged to accept responsibility for their own learning and are enabled to make ever more fully informed, mature and free responses and choices in relations to God, faith, stewardship and the service of others.
- Develop an appreciation of the wonder of creation and the need to respect and care for the world around us
- Sound teaching to compare our own faith with that of others

Planning

At St Josephs our RE curriculum is taken from the Salford Diocesan Guidelines and the RE scheme The Way, The Truth and The Life. Teachers plan using the Guidelines and scheme and differentiate the children's learning appropriately. Each half term these are evaluated (by the teacher). Planning is scrutinised by the RE subject Leader (to monitor continuity and progression).

Assessment

Recording of the children's takes many forms- pictorial, written, wall displays, assemblies etc. Displays can be seen in each classroom around the focus of lesson and centred on the prayer area. All children keep an RE exercise book or folder throughout the year.



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Children are continually assessed on their knowledge and understanding of topics in a variety of ways:

- Differentiated questioning
- Discussion
- Marking of pupils' work
- Activities within class

The role of the RE Subject Leader

The RE Subject Leader leads staff in developing their teaching of RE in a number of ways including:

- Her/his own good practice
- Offering advice and support to colleagues
- Leading staff meetings and INSET in RE
- Auditing, ordering and storing resources of RE
- Being responsible for the processes of Self Evaluation in RE (monitoring of pupils' work, planning, and lesson observations).
- Reporting the outcomes of Self Evaluation to the Head teacher and members of Senior Leadership Team
- Writing a annual Action plan for RE

It is part of the RE Subject Leader's role to develop and extend the Catholic ethos of the School in relation to worship, prayer, worship, assembly and the School Mission Statement.

Together with other members of staff the Subject Leader organises display and opportunities to celebrate children's achievement in RE.

The Subject Leader also plays a significant role in strengthening links between home, school and parish and building up a truly Christian community, united in the love of God and the teaching of Christ.

The School in the Community (ECM: Makes a Positive Contribution)

We aim to develop in the children concern and charity towards others in the community. We do this by involving the children in charity fund raising throughout the year. We raise funds to support the work of a wide variety of charity including:

- CAFOD
- Caritas
- Francis House
- Willow Wood Hospice



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We hope through these and other activities children become aware of the needs of others both near and far, and develop sensitivity, generosity and a sense of responsibility toward their neighbours in Christ.

Parents and parishioners are invited to attend our Class Assembly each Friday morning and to participate in our Masses and other celebrations of life in a Catholic primary school.

Sacramental programme

The Sacramental programme is in accord with the Salford Diocese and is parish led. In Year 3, the children (and their parents) work closely with Catechists to prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. Preparation for these Sacraments is an integral part of our RE programme. Teaching within school is linked with the Parish programme – involving parents and catechists. Work begun in the Foundation Stage is deepened and developed throughout the following years.