



# Religious Education Policy

**“A new command I give to you: Love one another as I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35**

## Mission Statement

- Every child will achieve and become a citizen of the future, knowing that they are important to the world and to God.
- To help every person recognise and celebrate their uniqueness
- To prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life inspired by the example of Christ.
- To equip our learners for a career in 21st century.
- To promote the moral, cultural, intellectual, academic and physical development of everyone within our school.
- To encourage everyone to develop lively, enquiring, imaginative and creative minds through high expectations, excellent opportunities and high standards of learning in school.
- To help each other become independent, self-motivated, self-disciplined and to develop respect for ourselves, others and the environment.
- We will encourage teamwork and collaboration amongst everyone in our school.
- To develop interests and skills which will enable us to enjoy and make the best use of our leisure time.
- To emphasise the qualities of tolerance and respect for all regardless of colour, race, class, ability or gender and to encourage in the children a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others.
- In all school activities we will encourage and support children, staff, suppliers and visitors to consider best use of materials; minimise waste of all types; be economical with energy, heat, light and water and consider the impact of their activities on the school and its finances, on the community and on the wider global environment.

## Our Statement of Equality and Inclusion - Summary

Our school is committed to the development and encouragement of all of our pupils and staff. We recognise the positive contribution the school makes to the local community, our stakeholders, parents and partners. By treating all of our school family and friends with dignity and respect we encompass the key aims of the Equality Act 2010 and the general duties. This is also echoed in our school values. Inclusion and accessible learning is key to our success, as is the development of our staff. We work to remove barriers to learning and engagement in all that we do as well as allowing for opportunities for dialogue and better understanding between different people. Everyone is unique and we value this daily.



Revised by: Head, staff & governors:

Date: November 2018

Next Review: November 2020 or sooner if regulations / circumstances change

*This policy should be read in conjunction with our "Loving School" document.*

Religious Education is taught through the use of the "Discovery RE" scheme of work for other faiths. From September 2018 this has been supplemented by the introduction of 'Understanding Christianity' and with reference to the school's Trust Deed and the Church of England's vision for education:

- **Educating for wisdom knowledge and skills**
- **Educating for hope and aspiration**
- **Educating for community and living well together**
- **Educating for dignity and respect**

**RE fulfils a role in our rights respecting schools work:**

**UNCRC Article 14, we have the right to think what we like and be whatever religion we want to be with our parents' guidance.**

**UNCRC Article 30, if we come from a minority group because of our race, religion or language, we have the right to enjoy our own culture, practice our own religion and use our own language.**

1. The purpose is to support the development of children's own values and contribute to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
2. This entails enabling children to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religions and to their own and others cultural and life experiences. This takes the form of encountering religious stories, festivals, artefacts, places of worship, rituals and beliefs.
3. Our ethos of being a "Loving school" is embedded throughout and we aspire to be loving with Christ as our example in all that we do. We believe that RE is an exciting and relevant subject for all our children. We regard it as an area of the curriculum which begins with each child's own experiences. We aim to encourage children to value themselves, develop a sense of what it means to have faith, be sensitive to the beliefs of others and gain an understanding of the importance of religion in today's world.
4. Activities are planned in order to make the subject accessible to all children, irrespective of backgrounds, gender, ethnicity, age or ability.
5. We maintain strong links with Bransgore Parish Church of St. Mary and we also have strong relationships with Shackleton Square, Poulner Baptist church and the wider local community. We welcome the contribution of our vicar who leads a worship weekly and visitors who lead some Collective Worship. They make a valuable contribution towards enriching Religious Education in our school.

## **Aims**

- 1 To develop children's knowledge and understanding of the key principles, values, beliefs and teachings of Christianity, with a particular focus on the Anglican tradition.
- 2 To provide a wide range of encounters with religion which will help them form a view of the world that they can apply to their own experiences.
- 3 To encourage and develop children's interest and opinions about concepts that are common to themselves and religions, and recognise and express their own values and beliefs.
- 4 To enable children to consider the effects religion has on people's lives, and to understand and respect different religions, values and traditions.
6. To enable each child to make reasoned, philosophical and informed judgements on religious and moral issues.
7. To provide opportunities for children to reflect on, analyse and evaluate beliefs, values and practices.
8. To foster in children attitudes such as curiosity, open-mindedness, self-understanding, respect, wonder and appreciation, fundamental to the spiritual dimension of human life.
9. To enable children to recognise and appreciate the value of qualities such as integrity, faithfulness, compassion, generosity, courage and love.
10. To understand the human value and importance of living in community.

## **RE Guidelines**

RE is taught using an enquiry based approach to teaching and learning. It is often taught in a discrete but sometimes integrated way. It is taught in line with the 'Discovery RE' syllabus 'Understanding Christianity'. We make use of cross-curricular links and learning, such as with ICT, PSHCE, P4C, drama, art and music to enhance teaching.

The pupils will cover the key concepts within Understanding Christianity of Incarnation, Salvation, God, Creation, Gospel and The Kingdom of God. They will also cover a range of concepts linked to other faiths, including Hinduism, Judaism and Islam within The Discovery RE programme.

On average we aim to teach about one hour per week of RE.

A range of teaching opportunities are used including

- exploring religious artefacts
- visiting places of worship
- welcoming visits by members of a faith community
- using pictures, religious symbols as a stimulus for learning/basis of discussion

Across the school the children have the opportunity to study Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam

### **Assessment**

It is not appropriate to assess a child's own beliefs, values, attitudes or behaviour:

Assessment in RE is concerned with the development of knowledge and understanding of different religious traditions and concepts, and skill in using appropriate terminology to explain matters of religious belief and practice.

### **The right of withdrawal from RE**

At Bransgore CE School we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents, have the legal right to withdraw their children from Religious Education on the grounds of conscience. However, the right of withdrawal does not extend to other areas of the curriculum when, as may happen on occasion, spontaneous questions on religious matters are raised by pupils or there are issues related to religion that arise in other subjects such as history, science or otherwise. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the Headteacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision and practice of Religious Education at Bransgore CE School (Schools Standards and Framework Act 1988).

<b>Approval</b>	<i>Board of Governors</i>	<b>Chair</b>	<i>J. Hunter</i>
	<i>Named Governor for RE</i>		<i>Rev Dr Ben Sargent</i>
<b>Headteacher</b>	<i>P. Brown</i>	<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date of last review</b>	<i>Nov 2018</i>	<b>Date of review</b>	<i>Nov 2018</i>
<b>Date of next review</b>	<i>Nov 2020</i>	<b>Maintenance</b>	<i>Annually</i>