



Religious Education Policy

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| Required Review Frequency | C&S to determine – every 3yrs |
| Next Review Due: | September 2027 |
| Committee Responsible: | Curriculum and Standards Committee |
| Document Location | School |

| Version | Approved By | Date of Approval | Key Changes |
|---------|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.0 | FGB | 24/01/2018 | Policy updated with current practices |
| 1.1 | FGB | January 2021 | No changes made |
| | C&S | October 2024 | No changes made |

At this church school, all aspects of school life reflect a Christian ethos and all policies are based on Christian principles.

Rationale

RE enables children to explore the spiritual dimension of experience and to develop the understanding of various religious (and non-religious) interpretations of life.

Aims

The aims of Religious Education in church schools are:

- To enable pupils to encounter Christianity as the religion that shaped British culture and heritage and influences the lives of millions of people today
- To enable pupils to learn about the other major religions, their impact on culture and politics, art and history, and on the lives of their adherents
- To develop understanding of religious faith as the search for and expression of truth
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual / philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own faith and beliefs

Outcomes

The outcomes for pupils at the end of their education in church schools are that they are able to:

- Think theologically and explore ultimate questions
- Reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief
- Develop the skills to analyse, interpret and apply the Bible text
- Recognise that faith is a particular way of understanding and responding to God and the world
- Analyse and explain the varied nature and traditions of the Christian community
- Make a well informed response to Christianity
- Respect those of all faiths in their search for God
- Reflect critically on areas of shared belief and practice between different faiths
- Enrich and expand their understanding of truth
- Reflect critically and express their views on the human quest and destiny

Guidelines

- RE is usually taught as a discrete subject
- Aspects of RE may form part of a cross curricular topic
- Aspects of RE may form part of a personal and social education programme, although this does not replace the core syllabus
- As a Church school it is expected that approximately 60% of RE time will be spent on the study of Christianity

Requirements

- All children will be encouraged to achieve irrespective of gender, race, religion, social background or Special Educational Needs
- The school will undertake the teaching of RE in accordance with the South Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus. The RE Today scheme has been combined with the Understanding Christianity programme of study (see appendix 1 for RE overview)
- It is expected that a reasonable amount of time (approximately 5% or 1 hour per week) is spent on RE
- RE should not seek to convert children or to impose on them any particular religion or denomination
- Governors must notify parents of any changes to the syllabus
- Pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding will be assessed according to the Levels of Attainment in the South Gloucestershire syllabus
- Particulars of each child's achievement in RE will be included in his/her annual report
- Parents may request the removal of their child from part or all of RE
- Teachers retain the right not to participate in or conduct RE
- ICT will be used to facilitate the teaching/learning in RE, as appropriate

- For further information, please see the South Glos. agreed syllabus and school Scheme of Work

The equalities impact in relation to this policy has been assessed.