



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Religious Education

Policy

'In the faithful care of St Joseph, Jesus prospered'

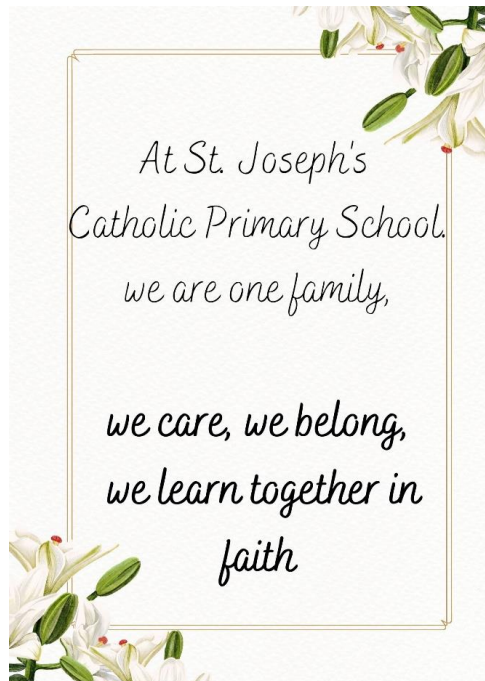
St Joseph's is a Catholic primary we are one family.

We care, we belong, we learn together in faith.

Written: October 22

(revised March 23)

Review date: September 23



Our Vision

In the faithful care of St Joseph, Jesus prospered. Our vision is to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment where children aim high and achieve to their full potential.

Our Mission

St Joseph's is a Catholic primary we are one family. We care, we belong, we learn together in faith.

We:

- promote the partnership of home, school, church and community;
- pray together, grow in faith and live the Gospel values;
- respect and care for everyone and everything around us;
- value each child as an individual;
- encourage our pupils to develop active and creative minds;
- promote self-esteem and confidence;
- set high standards of learning;
- celebrate the achievements of each and every child.

Rationale of Religious Education

Religious Education is central to the educative mission of the Church.

*'At the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person. This vision is expressed and explored in Religious Education.'*¹

Religious Education is *'the core of the core curriculum'*² in a Catholic School.

Religious Education's primary purpose is to:

'come to know and understand God's revelation which is fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ'.²

At the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person, this education entails the on-going development of the entire potential of every person *'Catholic schools remain essential places for the evangelization of the young'*.⁴

The outcome of Catholic Religious Education is:

'Religiously literate young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills - appropriate to their age and capacity - to think spiritually, ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life'.³

The Aims of Religious Education as stated in the RE Curriculum Directory are:

- To present engagingly a comprehensive content which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith;
- To enable pupils continually to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively:
- To present an authentic vision of the Church's moral and social teaching so that pupils can make a critique of the underlying trends in contemporary culture and society;
- To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to respect and understand them;
- To develop the critical faculties of pupils so that they can relate their Catholic faith to daily life;
- To stimulate pupils' imagination and provoke a desire for personal meaning as revealed in the truth of the Catholic faith;

¹ Religious Education in Catholic Schools, Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 2000, para 4 ² Address of his Holiness John Paul II to the Bishops of Great Britain on their AD Limina visit, 1992, para 5

² Religious Education Curriculum Directory, Department of Catholic Education and Formation, Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 2012, p3 ⁴ Pope

Francis TO YOUNG PEOPLE, Christus Vivit, 2019

³ Religious Education Curriculum Directory, Department of Catholic Education and Formation, Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 2012, p10

- To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum;
- To bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.

Programme of Study

To fulfil the above aims and to address the four areas of study as outlined in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory, 2012 - Revelation, Church, Celebration and Life in Christ we follow the 'Come and See' scheme of work to deliver Religious Education. Although this forms the basis of our teaching, enhancements are included through bespoke planning which is linked to the liturgical year, the universal Church and Diocesan initiatives.

Religious Education – Curriculum Time Allocation

Religious Education is a core subject in our school and 10% of our teaching time is allocated to this subject. In KS1 and Foundation stage the time spent on RE each week is at least 2 hours and in KS2 the time spent on RE each week is 2.5 hours. This does not include Prayer & Liturgy.

Teaching and Learning

All our teaching and learning fulfils the four areas of study outlined in the Curriculum Directory: Revelation, Church, Celebration and Life in Christ. We are following the 'Come and See' programme, which provides a scheme of work for Religious Education and meet these four areas. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the scheme where necessary to make the subject more accessible, meaningful and enjoyable for all our children.

Religious Education is taught through the process of **Explore, Reveal, Respond**. This follows the pattern of: the human search for meaning, God's initiative in Revelation and the response in faith. This pattern is outlined both in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and in the Curriculum Directory.

As the Directory states: 'Teaching in Religious Education, should help people be attentive to the meaning of their experiences, illumined by the light of the Gospel, so that they may respond to God more fully. Experience can also make the Christian message more intelligible.'⁴

Other Religions

Two other main world religions are taught across the year from EYFS to Year 6 following the programme of study in 'Come and See'. Judaism and the other faith are taught over the course of one week with different aspects/themes covered in each year group.

⁴ Religious Education Curriculum Directory, Department of Catholic Education and Formation, Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 2012, p.7

The following table shows which other faiths will be studied over the next 3 years.

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Judaism	Judaism	Judaism
Islam	Sikhism	Hinduism

Assessment, Monitoring, Recording and Reporting

- Assessment of standards is carried out using the Age-Related Standards in Religious Education (3-19) interim document agreed by Bishops' Conference.
- Work is continually assessed throughout each topic by the class teacher.
- An in - house moderation of pupils' books is held every term.
- A range of annotated pupils' books are presented for Diocesan Moderation at RE Subject Leader Moderation meetings in the summer term, as directed by the Diocesan Department for Education.
- Monitoring of teaching and learning is carried out by the RE Subject Leader. This is done through lesson observations, work scrutiny, moderation, pupil interviews and data analysis.
- During the period of use of the Age-Related Standards in Religious Education (319) interim document progress and achievement is recorded and tracked via 'Brick Walls' as it is for Reading, Writing and Maths.
- Progress and achievement in Religious Education is reported to parents/carers in a written report at the end of each academic year.

Inclusion and Equality

All pupils at St Josephs, irrespective of ability, faith and background will have appropriate differentiated access to the Religious Education programme.

The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that our school strives to do the best for all of the pupils, irrespective of disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sex, gender identity, religion or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children.

Parents have the right of withdrawal from RE for their children.

Management of the Subject

The RE Subject Leader has responsibility for leading, managing and supporting the delivery of and training in Religious Education.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed by the RE Subject Leader and updated every 2 years.