



RE Policy 2021-2024

OUR VISION

Our vision is to be a nurturing and inclusive school, proudly reflecting the diversity of our community, where every child is treated as an individual and no matter what their starting point will achieve their true potential within a safe and secure environment.

By the end of their journey, we want our children to be respectful, resilient role-models, having a self-belief in themselves and their abilities, ready to go from strength to strength.

Our Values

All Saints' has an ethos built around our core Christian values of Compassion, Koinonia (community) and Love. Our key aims are linked to scripture (See full mission statement), culminating in our strap line of '*Growing Stronger Together in God's Love.*'

Compassion

Be kind and compassionate to one another, learning from our mistakes and forgiving others for theirs.

Koinonia (community)

Value and celebrate diversity, welcoming families from all faiths and backgrounds.

Love

The love within our school is one of family and friendship, enabling each child to grow and flourish.

Aims

All Saints' C of E School is rooted in a Christian ethos based of nurture and mutual care. The RE curriculum is governed by the same principles and high expectations that applies to all other areas of our curriculum.

The RE curriculum seeks to build on, or introduce, our children to the world of religion and spirituality, being mindful of the ethnic diversity and religious make-up of the school.

Archbishop Runcie:

A church school nourishes Christians in their faith, encourages those of other faiths and challenges those with no faith.

During a child's time here at All Saints' we aim that children will develop:

- A sound understanding of the beliefs, values, rituals and practices of Christianity
- Be familiar with the life and ministry of Jesus Christ
- To recognise Christian signs and symbols and be familiar with a variety of resources including: the Bible, literature, the arts, music, liturgy and sacrament
- To have explored the key beliefs, values, rituals and practices of the principals world religions
- To be reflective about what it means to have faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding

RE Curriculum

Intent:

At All Saints' Church of England Primary School, the aim of our curriculum is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity as well as many other religious and non-religious worldviews represented in Great Britain. We aim to understand the way that religious and non-religious beliefs and values shape our lives and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in such a way as to reflect the overall aims, values, and philosophy of the school. It is both high-quality and sequential, aiming to prepare children for life in modern Britain. As a Church of England school, Religious Education plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas, particularly PSHE and the teaching of British Values, in promoting the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of our children. Strong links are made with our school vision, underpinned by our three Core Values which, alongside our other values, are the bedrock of our provision.

Implementation:

It has been agreed that having taken into account the requirements and guidelines presented in the Agreed Syllabus, the following religions have been selected for study and we utilise the South Diocese Board of Education's syllabus:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism
- Buddhism

As Christianity is the predominant religion in the school's pupil population (62% Christian) and in the community surrounding the school, Christianity is the main faith studied each year with a minimum of 66% of the RE curriculum devoted to it, it makes up a minimum of 10% of teaching time in Key Stage one and 15% in Key stage two. However, all children will experience at least four other major worldviews across their school career, as well as encountering non-religious beliefs too.

There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds, and beliefs and values of the children and the staff. We value the religious or non-religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All worldviews and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community. We acknowledge that each religion or worldview studied can contribute to the education of all our pupils. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for both staff and children.

Teachers plan for their individual classes to ensure it is challenging and creative. Our lessons promote self-awareness, respect for all, open mindedness and wonder. We explicitly teach core Christian concepts such as the trinity, and link our core Christian values to Bible story through RE lessons and collective worship.

Impact:

The children at All Saints' Church of England Primary School enjoy learning about other religions and world views and why people choose, or choose not to hold religious or non-religious beliefs. Through their R.E. learning, the children are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. Through R.E. our children are developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life and worship, and their own which they are then able to communicate to the wider community.

The children's progress and attainment is high, allowing them to develop religious literacy. Our children are reflective learners who consider the impact religion has in Britain and in the lives of people worldwide.

Curriculum Design & Time Allocation

RE will have an allocation of at least 5% curriculum time. As a church All Saints' believes in the centrality of RE in the curriculum.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1: Approximately 30 hours per year/ 1 hour per week

Key stage 2: Approximately 40 hours per year / 1 hour 15mins per week

Delivery of the curriculum is separate from Collective Worship.

The RE curriculum is taken from the 2016 SDBE scheme of work. The units are designed so that pupils learn *about* (AT1) religion and *from* (AT2) religion. The units are in the main Christian (5/6th), whilst taking into account the other principal world faiths (1/6th): Judaism, Islam, Sikhism, Hinduism and Buddhism.

We aim to link other areas of the curriculum to make the most of learning time and provide further curriculum enrichment opportunities to extend and consolidate children's understanding, making relevant links to RRS (Right Respecting School) articles or Christian Values. Sometimes this may be a discussion and so not part of the topic's outcomes, but where the outcomes do show evidence of a RRS article or Christian Value, the relevant RRS article sticker or the bible sticker will be added to the children's books.

All year groups study *Christmas* and *Easter* each year, the scheme ensures there is continuity and progression between the year groups and key stages, with the differences concepts and aspects taught.

Here at All Saints' we recognise that pupils have a wide range of differing abilities and needs. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching tasks to abilities and challenging appropriately. It is the responsibility of teachers to ensure this is done, so all children can take part in learning, with outcomes they are proud of.

In addition, we ensure our curriculum reflects and acknowledges the diversity within our community and globally. We weave this into our curriculum, making it priority; helping learning become relevant and linking it to our existing RE and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) work and beyond.

We recognise that parents may wish to withdraw their child/ren from the RE curriculum and Collective Worship and respect these wishes, offering supervision in an alternative space if necessary.

PSHE/SMSC/VALUES -

Through our RE lessons we aim to teach the children about the values and moral beliefs that influence a person's behaviour. An example of this is the contribution to the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, whereby topics such as, bullying, health and well-being, role models, kindness and charity are discussed. These aims also tie in with our pastoral support of individuals through our Jigsaw, SEAL (social & emotion aspects of learning) and ELSA (emotional literacy support assistant) programmes to develop the 'whole child'. Children are encouraged to consider sharing their feelings and learn more about themselves and how to make the right choices. Children learn the difference between right and wrong and consider the ethical and moral questions that are presented to them in RE lessons and beyond. The aim is to enhance social development through building a sense of identity in our community/society.

As children explore issues of religious faith and values and, in doing so, they develop their knowledge and understanding of the cultural context of their own lives.

Monitoring and Assessment –

The role of the RE subject leader and Faith Group is to monitor the teaching and learning across the school. This is done through:

- Annual lesson observations, ensuring appropriate use of resources
- Using pupil voice to assess how much they enjoy and learn from RE lessons
- Monitoring of planning
- Monitoring of books (book scrutiny)
- Evaluating the scheme of work
- Building a portfolio of work e.g. photographs and copies of good work
- Using assessment data to evaluate and create progress summaries

The RE subject leader may support staff by acting upon the development points through attending and delivering INSET, passing on key information and through modelling lessons and team teaching.

Teachers are required to assess their pupils' progress and attainment in line with our school's Herts for Learning system (see Assessment Policy for further information).

- It is expected that all teachers enter data once per term.
- It is expected all teacher's complete the RE 'Front Covers' assessment, where the children are assessed against each objective to be either developing, secure or mastering age related expectations (ARE) for each year group.

The formative assessment can be gathered in the following ways:

- Marking written work
- Observations of discussions
- Observations of group activities
- Discussions with individual pupils

Links between Home, School and Parish

Curriculum maps are shared with parents about the topics to be studied each term. Parents receive the weekly Headteacher's newsletter, which keeps them informed about events happening in the school. Regular visits to All Saints' Church and other places of worship are encouraged, as are visitors including clergy.

Parents are encouraged to discuss their child's progress in RE through annual reports, at Parents' Evenings or informally with the class teacher if there is any uncertainty or questions. Children are encouraged to bring articles from home and to include members of their family in class prayers.

We have developed links with our local church. Children also take part in activities at the local church. Parents are also invited to attend.

This policy was written by Angela Filsell, November 2021

It is due to be reviewed in November 2024