



HOLY FAMILY RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy for Religious Education

Always our best for God, each other and ourselves

RATIONALE

Our school is a Catholic community of faith whose main task is to help our children know, understand and participate more fully in the life of the Church and also to appreciate the spiritual and religious dimensions in life as expressed in the Catholic faith tradition. Children reflect on what it means to have faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding.

AIMS

1. To bring children to an awareness of God the Father as a presence in their lives, through the person and teachings of Jesus Christ, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and to develop their relationship with Him.
 2. To be a community which meets the human and religious needs of the children and looks further than its own frontiers to challenge and serve a society, which is religiously, racially and culturally diverse.
 3. To present religious education in the context of a community which seeks to live by, and foster gospel values.
 4. To help children recognise and appreciate the religious and spiritual dimensions of life.
 5. To enable pupils to explore, understand, reflect on and develop their personal knowledge of the Catholic faith.
 6. To allow time and space for searching, questioning and accepting.
 7. To lead the children through a programme of study which has, as its foundation, the four key areas of the Catholic doctrine and practice stated in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory.
 8. To make **prayer**, worship and liturgy meaningful and to present opportunities for the children to take responsibility for liturgical experiences.
 9. To foster feelings of wonder, awe, joy and mystery and a sense of ritual.
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10. To create in the classroom a community where the pupils know they are loved, and where they feel confident and secure.
11. To enable the pupils to achieve a knowledge and understanding of their Catholic religion so that they are able to form their own faith, whilst respecting the rights of other people to hold beliefs which are different from their own.
12. To introduce children to the background and beliefs of other faiths i.e. Judaism and Islam, so that they are able to understand the message of faith and value the contribution people of other faiths can bring to understanding relationship with God.

CONTENT OF RE IN OUR SCHOOL

RE should present our pupils with the same academic demands and challenges as any other curriculum area.

It should promote knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith; its relevance to the ultimate questions of life and the skills required engaging in religious thinking.

The basic content of our scheme of work has as its point of reference: The Curriculum Directory. We follow the programme "The Way, the Truth and the Life".

The broad areas with which RE is concerned are:

- Revelation
- Life in Jesus
- The Church
- Celebration

The RE curriculum (and the whole curriculum at Holy Family) is enriched and enhanced by two programmes that focus on Catholic Social Teaching:

Caritas in Action and **Building the Kingdom**.

ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING

The purpose of assessment, recording and reporting in religious education is to help pupils make progress by enhancing teaching and learning.

Rationale

We recognise that assessment, recording and reporting are a natural part of teaching and are integral to the learning process. They are continuous processes requiring a close partnership between teachers and pupils, and the involvement of others as appropriate. They are the responsibility of all teachers.

We believe that assessment is at the heart of good teaching. Assessment, recording and reporting of religious education will be broad in character and

will recognise the innate dignity and worth of each child. Assessment against the national outcomes is carried out every term.

Practice:

Good assessment strategies will be rooted in effective planning.

Teachers' long- and medium-term planning will be a collaborative process which assists continuity and progression.

Specific assessment strategies for each topic will be identified in teachers' planning.

Marking pupils' work will be approached positively and constructively so that it affirms and celebrates success and encourages future learning; and will be in line with the school's Marking Policy.

Recording will recognise the distinctive nature of religious education.

Records will provide evidence of what the pupils have done and what they can achieve. The process of recording will enable us to provide evidence of the quality of teaching and learning for ourselves as teachers and governors and for parents and inspectors.

Each class will formally assess RE at the end of each unit, assessing the children's knowledge and understanding of the learning from that term. This information will be recorded onto the school's assessment system, 'Insight'.

Information from this assessment is used by the RE Lead who will use it to monitor coverage and progress throughout the school, as well as analyse groups of children such as EAL, PP, SEND and gender. This information will also be used by teachers to identify and further support children in their classes with RE learning.

Religious Education will be reported in each child's annual school report.

Review:

The RE Lead is Miss Gemma Cullimore. She is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the success of this policy.

This policy is closely associated with our Mission Statement and was ratified by the Governors.

Signed: Gemma Cullimore

Date: January 2024

Date to be reviewed: January 2025
