



Religious Education Policy

Ratification date:	December 2025
Chair of Governors:	Mrs Deborah Penny
Head Teacher:	Mrs Nuala Ferguson
Review Date:	December 2027

1. VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to work together in the way of Christ, to develop learners who are respectful, responsible, educated young people who will contribute positively to the world and the global community and grow with a faith that will underpin their whole lives.

'Christ at the heart of all we do'

It is the gift of Christian faith to know that God speaks to us in the person of Jesus Christ. We chose 'Christ at the heart of all we do', for Christ is the one who not only shows us the truth about God but also the truth about ourselves. Christ is indeed at the centre of education at St Anne's. To put Christ at the heart of all we do means we integrate the gospel values and the teachings of the Catholic Church into every aspect of learning, teaching and the totality of school life. In our school, our children's journey towards adulthood will also be a journey of faith.



2. IMPLEMENTATION – POLICY INTO PRACTICE

As Parents, Staff and Governors

"We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted,

Knowing that they hold future promise.

We are prophets of a future not our own."

(Oscar Romero)

Implementation of the Mission Statement through this R.E. policy is supported by the following elements:

3. TIME ALLOCATION

If we consider the current hours/week for each key stage we can establish approximately how much actual time is to be allocated:

Key Stage 1 - 21.5 hrs/wk Therefore 10% for R.E. - 2hrs 10mins

Key Stage 2 - 23.5 hrs/wk Therefore 10% for R.E. - 2hrs 20mins

4. RATIONALE

Religious Education in our school is based on the Gospel values and teachings of the Catholic Church. We aim to develop a strong awareness of the spiritual dimensions of life amongst our pupils and to equip them with Christian values which will guide them throughout their lives.

5. SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The children in Year 3 are prepared for the sacraments of Forgiveness and the Eucharist through the Parish of St Anne's with instruction from catechists, with links to the Way, the Truth and the Life scheme of work in school, particularly in the Year 3 units of 'The Sacrament of Reconciliation' and 'Celebrating the Mass'. This preparation further encourages the close link between the school, the home and the parish. Prayer and Liturgy take place



each day, giving the children the opportunity to come together to listen, reflect and pray. Children are led in prayers throughout the day by their class teachers or peers. Children and staff attend St. Anne's church for Mass at least once a half term and the parish priest and deacon make regular visits to school

6. AIMS

The aims of Religious Education at St. Anne's are:

- to lead each child to love and respect God and one another and themselves, in partnership with parents and the priest,
- to promote a loving and secure environment where children can learn to become aware of the mystery of life through their own experiences.
- to develop knowledge and understanding of Catholicism within Christianity and other major world religions and values.
- to develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today.
- to awaken a sense of responsibility for those who are less fortunate than themselves, through links with charitable organisations.
- to have respect for others and their values and opinions

7. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Religious Education at St. Anne's are that the children will:

- develop a sense of awe and wonder for the marvels of creation.
- develop a relationship with God our Father, with Jesus and with the Holy Spirit.
- develop an appreciation of the sanctity of the Eucharist.
- develop the ability to pray and reflect in a variety of situations.
- through the sacraments, increase their love and knowledge of God.
- develop a willingness and enthusiasm to participate in Prayer and Liturgy and the Liturgical Celebrations.
- come to know Our Lady.
- develop self-discipline based on sound Christian moral principles.



- develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others.
- experience the joy and happiness of living in a community based on the teaching of Christ.

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

R.E seeks to develop all pupils. Within every aspect of school life, we are committed to celebrating difference and to offering equal opportunities to all. These are inherent in topics explored, where children have the opportunity to share, learn about and experience key aspects of the diverse world in which we live.

9. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Teachers provide the children with the necessary opportunities to achieve the appropriate outcomes as outlined in The Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools. Staff use diocesan guidelines and advice in using "The Vine and the Branches" scheme to cover the Directory's programmes of study, with additional appropriate and enhancing materials gathered through CPD.

Children develop skills, attitudes and values through regular staff CPD from the RE Coordinator, Head and Deputy Headteachers and from the Diocese.

10. THE RE PROGRAMME

The school uses 'The Vine and the Branches' programme for Religious Education. The programme operates a yearly cycle of themes /topics which each year group follows. In Foundation Stage they follow a scheme designed to build the foundation stones for entry into Vine and Branches as recommended by the Diocese.

Planning for continuity, progression and coverage is done by teachers and the scheme's support materials provided by the Diocesan RE Team.

Adaptive Teaching

Activities, worksheets, prayers and stories are supported and are appropriate to the age range. The teacher uses his/her discretion within their children's experiences and needs and adapt the tasks appropriately.



Pupil's Progress

Assessments are carried out in line with the Diocesan Guidelines. Children are assessed throughout the topic in a variety of ways; teacher observation, recorded work, practical tasks, formal assessments, speaking and listening tasks. Teachers use diocesan support materials to record a 'best-fit' level on DCPRO (Assessment system) at the end of each term. Teachers moderate work from 'Indicator Children' once a term.

Teachers will report progress to parents in a variety of ways. Teachers will formally report progress in annual reports. They will also discuss progress during parent evenings and when the teacher feels it is necessary to discuss issues that may arise throughout the year.

Marking and Feedback

Teachers will use marking in RE books to support the learning objectives for each lesson.

Teachers will give formal and informal feedback to children on their performance and the ways they can improve during or after the lesson.

Teachers will mark positively and constructively. Marking will aim to give children advice on how they might improve their work.

Marking in RE books will not normally be used to improve children's literacy skills. The focus will always be on the religious content with particular reference to the learning objective. However, spellings and grammar might be corrected occasionally, especially if key vocabulary is involved (e.g. Jesus, God).

11. RESOURCES

Resources, information and artefacts to support RE teaching are to be found within each class and also in the RE Resource Drawers in the Main Hall. All documentation and paper files are kept by the RE Lead and Head Teacher in files and on the school server

12. INCLUSION

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At St. St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, we believe that all children have an equal right to a full and rounded education which will enable them to work confidently towards reaching their full potential and feel that they are a valued member of the wider school community. We provide teaching and learning for all children to gain access to a broad, balanced and appropriately differentiated curriculum.



Children with additional needs will be given access to the RE Curriculum as appropriate and with tasks suitably adapted to allow satisfactory progression.

At St Anne's our objectives are;

- To identify any barriers to learning at the earliest opportunity
- To develop effective whole school support for pupils, focusing on inclusive practices and removing/reducing barriers to learning
- To support all pupils with SEND to meet or exceed the high expectations we set for them against national data and based on their age and starting points
- To ensure that assessment and monitoring systems are effective and provide sufficient information about attainment and achievement for careful planning of progression
- To ensure that all those involved with children with SEND work as a team to support each child's learning
- To take into account the views of pupils and their parents/carers and to encourage their participation and partnership in decision-making about provision to meet special educational needs
- To ensure that every child experiences success in their learning and achieves the best possible educational and other outcomes
- To support children and young people with SEND and medical conditions to take part in the activities of the school alongside those who do not have SEND
- To value and encourage the contribution of all children to the life of our school
- To work with the Governing Body to enable them to fulfil their statutory monitoring role with regard to the specific supervision of the school's arrangements for SEND
- To work closely with partners in education, health and social care, where appropriate, to support the needs of individual pupils, ensuring that there is a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of vulnerable learners
- To ensure that all staff have access to continuing professional development and advice to support quality teaching and learning for all pupils
- To help children and young people prepare for a successful transition into the next phase of their education and to adulthood

At all times, teachers will be sensitive to the individual needs, beliefs and anxieties of the children they teach. At St. Anne's, staff conduct themselves in a professional manner. Controversial topics will be handled sensitively with our values. This will give children a clear and recognisable framework in which to discuss difficult topics. Teachers will demonstrate impartiality in respect of their own personal beliefs and attitudes.

Staff will use a variety of teaching methods to ensure quality first teaching.



13. SUPPORT

Support is available to all colleagues from the RE Lead, SLT and mentors.

Staff Development / INSET

The R.E Coordinator keeps up to date with changes and developments in RE, attending RE Coordinator and Hub meetings. The RE lead is also a member of the Diocesan Primary RE Working Party.

All staff attend relevant Diocesan INSET programmes.

14. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The governing board

The governing board will approve the Religious Education policy, and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that Religious Education is taught consistently across the school.

Staff

The Religious Education Leads are Mrs. C. Stevenson and Mrs. R Schauer who will ensure through regular monitoring of teaching and learning that staff:

- Deliver the Religious Education curriculum as set out in the national curriculum programmes of study
- Monitor and assess the progress of the children they are teaching
- Stimulate children's enthusiasm for Religious Education learning through current displays reflecting the learning that is going on in the subject
- Promote high standards of Religious Education across the curriculum
- Keep up to date with latest developments in the teaching and assessment of Religious Education

The Religious Education leads will ensure that Religious Education remains high profile throughout the school.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in Religious Education and, when discussing issues related to Religious Education, treat others with respect and sensitivity.



15. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The delivery of Religious Education is monitored by Mrs L. James (Religious Education Lead) through:

- Half termly monitoring arrangements, such as planning scrutinies, learning walks and lesson observations.

This policy will be reviewed by Mrs N. Ferguson (Headteacher) annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body and the headteacher.

16. DOCUMENT HISTORY

The following version control must be included on all policies to capture updates/reviews etc.

Date	Version	Notes
June 21	Draft 1	Initial draft shared with full governing Body
June 21	Version 1	Ratified by Governing Board
April 23	Version 2	Shared with LMC committee
December 25	Version 3	Updated in line with new RED.