

# Bryn St. Peter's C.E. Primary School



## Religious Education Subject Policy

Reviewed by: C. Brady

September 2025

## Our School Vision

# Together with God Building our Future

Guided by Christian values, with Jesus as our cornerstone, we set firm foundations for a life of flourishing, offering opportunities for all to develop in body, mind and spirit.

*And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

Ephesians 2:22

We are committed to educating the whole person for life in all its fullness guided by Christian values.

We deeply value creativity and joy in learning that allows everyone to achieve and flourish.

We want everyone to feel included, accepted, loved and positively understand their value and potential in our community.

### 1. Introduction

At Bryn St Peter's CE Primary School, Religious Education (RE) is a statutory and integral part of our curriculum. As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England School, we recognise the distinctive role RE plays in shaping pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our curriculum reflects that the religious traditions of Great Britain are predominantly Christian while valuing, and taking into account, the teachings and practices of other principal world religions.

We follow a hybrid of the Liverpool / Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus and SACRE Lancashire Agreed Syllabus ensuring full compliance with legal requirements.

### 2. Aims and Objectives

Our aims are to:

- Engage pupils in thoughtful enquiry into questions arising from religion, faith and belief.
- Provide knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal world faiths represented in Great Britain and globally.
- Develop pupils' understanding of how beliefs influence behaviour, values and perspectives.
- Encourage positive attitudes towards people of all faiths and worldviews.
- Support pupils as they explore identity, significance, meaning and purpose.

- Enable children to reflect on and articulate their own developing beliefs and values.

In line with Church of England expectations, RE also aims to:

- Encourage critical engagement with Christian belief and provide opportunities for reflection and theological thinking.
- Support pupils in recognising and respecting areas of commonality and difference between faiths.
- Enable pupils to become active, compassionate citizens in a multicultural world.

### **3. Curriculum Intent**

Our RE curriculum is designed to:

- Inspire curiosity, enquiry and deep thinking about beliefs and values.
- Nurture respectful understanding of diverse religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Help pupils appreciate how religious beliefs shape lives, traditions, cultures and societies.
- Provide structured opportunities for spiritual development, self-reflection and personal insight.
- Equip pupils with the skills needed to articulate their understanding using appropriate religious vocabulary.
- Promote compassion, courage, creativity and responsibility in learning.

### **4. Implementation**

- RE is taught weekly in every year group, with each class receiving at least one hour of timetabled RE.
- Christianity forms two-thirds of the curriculum, with the remaining third dedicated to other major world religions.
- Additional enrichment opportunities include:
  - *God and the Big Bang* workshops
  - Confirmation preparation
  - Cross-curricular projects

Teaching approaches include:

- Interactive, practical and creative activities
- Discussion, questioning and collaborative learning
- Story, drama, art, music and reflection
- Opportunities for pupils to express ideas and explore challenging concepts
- Age-appropriate and progressive themes that allow children to influence their own learning

Lessons are inclusive and adapted to support a range of needs, including SEND and EAL, ensuring full participation for all pupils.

## **5. Impact**

As a result of high-quality RE at Bryn St Peter's, pupils:

- Gain secure knowledge of Christianity, major world religions and non-religious worldviews.
- Develop respect, tolerance and empathy through exploring issues within and between faiths.
- Understand how beliefs influence individuals, communities and cultures.
- Build skills of enquiry, analysis, evaluation and reflection.
- Communicate personal responses with confidence and sensitivity.
- Consider deep questions about meaning, purpose, identity, morality and what it means to be human.
- Are prepared for life in a multicultural, global society and equipped to live harmoniously with others.
- Develop a strong sense of identity, belonging and self-worth.

## **6. Planning and Progression**

- Planning follows the Liverpool / Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus and SACRE Lancashire Agreed Syllabus.
- Units are progressive and developmental from EYFS to Year 6.
- Teachers incorporate cross-curricular links where appropriate and use a range of supportive resources.
- Long-term, medium-term and weekly plans ensure coverage, progression of concepts and skill development.
- The subject leader oversees progression across the school.

## **7. Assessment and Monitoring**

- Assessment in RE focuses on both knowledge and understanding and pupils' ability to apply learning to their own lives.
- Assessment is ongoing through discussion, observations, written work and creative responses.
- One unit per half term is assessed formally through quizzes, written tasks or equivalent evidence.
- Diocesan assessment templates are used to record progress toward end-of-key-stage expectations.
- Monitoring includes lesson observations, work scrutiny, pupil voice and planning reviews.

## **8. Role of the Subject Leader**

The RE Subject Leader is responsible for:

- Leading and developing the RE curriculum across the school.
- Ensuring teaching meets legal and diocesan requirements.
- Providing staff support, training and guidance.
- Monitoring standards of teaching and learning in RE.
- Managing and updating RE resources.
- Liaising with the diocese and contributing to whole-school Christian distinctiveness.

(Current RE Lead: Mrs Cheryl Brady)

## **9. Resources**

- RE resources are maintained by the subject leader and stored in the school hall storage units.
- Resources include artefacts, texts, visual materials, planning documents and interactive tools to support high-quality teaching.

## **10. Inclusion and Equal Opportunities**

### **SEND**

We ensure RE is accessible and meaningful for all pupils, including those with SEND.

Adaptations include:

- Differentiated tasks
- Visual, sensory and practical materials
- Scaffolded discussion and reflection
- Personalised support to help all learners flourish

### **EAL**

Pupils with English as an Additional Language have full access to the curriculum.

Creative activities such as art, drama and music help develop understanding and spiritual insight, supporting full participation.

RE promotes respect for every child as unique and valued, reflecting our Christian vision.

## **11. Health and Safety (if applicable)**

Health and safety considerations may apply when handling artefacts, using candles or conducting activities involving movement or practical work. Teachers ensure all activities comply with school health and safety guidelines.

## **12. Parental and Community Links**

- Parents may legally request withdrawal from RE; however, as a church school, RE permeates school life and complete withdrawal may not fully separate pupils from religious aspects of the school environment.
- When withdrawal is requested, the Headteacher meets with parents to understand concerns and seek a suitable arrangement.
- The school values positive engagement with church representatives and the wider community to enrich pupils' learning experiences.

## **13. Review and Evaluation**

- This policy is reviewed regularly by the subject leader and senior leadership team.
- Updates reflect changes in diocesan guidance, statutory requirements and school priorities.
- Evaluation draws on monitoring outcomes, assessment data and feedback from staff and pupils.

## **14. Linked Policies and Documents**

This policy should be read alongside:

- Collective Worship Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Inclusion and SEND Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

God, building our future