



## Religious Education Curriculum

Our School Mission Statement

“In our school, where everyone is special, we will love and serve as Jesus taught.”

### **Intent**

At St. Austin’s Catholic Primary School, our Religious Education (RE) curriculum is rooted in Gospel values, Catholic teachings, and our school mission. Our intent is to provide a rich and inclusive RE curriculum that enables pupils to acquire and deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith, moral reasoning, and interfaith understanding.

### **Our RE curriculum:**

- Is woven into the broader school curriculum, ensuring Catholic values underpin all learning experiences.
- Encourages pupils to ask and answer big questions about life, faith, and morality.
- Embeds the teachings of Pope Francis’ encyclicals (Fratelli Tutti and Laudato Si’) to instil social responsibility, stewardship, and care for creation.
- Integrates Catholic Social Teaching (CST) to develop pupils' moral compass and ethical decision-making.
- Ensures that other faiths (Judaism, Islam, and others) are studied with respect and depth to foster interfaith dialogue and cultural awareness.
- Aligns with British Values and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural) education.
- Supports the personal, social, and emotional development of pupils, reinforcing their sense of identity, purpose, and place in the world.
- Involves parents as primary educators of faith, supporting them in their child’s religious development.

### **Implementation**

We ensure that RE is taught systematically and progressively across all year groups, using Come and See, the Archdiocese of Liverpool’s RE curriculum, alongside other high-quality resources.

As part of a planned curriculum development, we are currently transitioning to the new Religious Education Directory (RED) curriculum. This updated curriculum is being rolled out in phases over the next two years. It is currently being implemented in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3, with full adoption expected across all year groups by the end of the transition period.



### **Teaching and Learning Approach:**

- Structured Learning: Lessons follow the Explore, Reveal, Respond model in the Come and See Scheme allowing children to reflect on life experiences and faith teachings. In this transitional period EYFS, Y1, Y2 and Y3 teaching follows the RED curriculum with the starting point of lessons being the Scripture from the Good News Bible.
- High-Quality Instruction: Teaching incorporates scaffolding, open-ended questioning, retrieval practice, and vocabulary development.
- Assessment and Feedback: We use formative and summative assessment through Driver Words to evaluate pupils' understanding.
- Diverse Learning Experiences: We integrate RE with themed weeks (e.g., STEM Week) and cross-curricular projects.

### *Interfaith and Cultural Learning:*

- Dedicated study of other faiths, including Judaism, Islam, and world religions.
- Visits to places of worship and guest speakers from different faith communities.
- Opportunities for interfaith projects and shared learning experiences.

### *Digital Literacy in RE:*

- Use of technology to explore religious texts, online faith resources, and multimedia storytelling.
- Digital projects such as creating virtual prayer spaces, faith blogs, and podcasts exploring ethical issues.

### *Environmental Stewardship and Laudato Si':*

- RE is linked to our Forest School programme, sustainability projects, and beekeeping initiatives.
- Lessons include Catholic teachings on stewardship, care for creation, and social justice activism.

### *Extracurricular and Enrichment Opportunities:*

- Liturgical Celebrations: Pupils participate in Mass, prayer services, and church feast days.
- Community Outreach: Involvement in charity projects (e.g., CAFOD, Zoe's Place, UNICEF, Poppy Appeal).
- Pupil-led worship and prayer groups.
- Interfaith dialogue events and cultural celebrations throughout the school year.



## **Impact**

Through our RE curriculum, pupils will:

- Develop a deep understanding of the Catholic faith and the role of spirituality in daily life.
- Demonstrate moral integrity, compassion, and a sense of social justice.
- Be equipped with critical thinking skills to engage in ethical discussions.
- Gain an appreciation of religious diversity and interfaith respect.
- Show digital literacy in exploring faith-based discussions and resources.
- Have the confidence to articulate their beliefs and values while respecting those of others.

By the time our pupils leave St. Austin's, they will be compassionate, informed, and active members of both the Catholic and global communities, ready to contribute positively to society with faith, wisdom, and integrity.