

SCHOOL POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Co-ordinator:

Luke Bridges

Buddy:

Ruth Spencer

Date Adopted:

**September
2023**

Review by

**Summer
2024**

Our School Vision

St. Leonard's C.E. Primary School encourages everyone to "Enjoy Success" through a stimulating curriculum in a happy, safe and exciting environment, which is celebrated by all. We will continuously build upon these foundations by focusing on quality, effectiveness and achievement, underpinned by strong Christian values as illustrated in Galatians 5 22-23.

How the Policy developed

The curriculum of our school should promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, and physical development of our pupils and of society and prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

We already consider this part of our role, and the Christian ethos and curriculum provided at St Leonard's C.E. Primary School, within which this policy sits, already promote this.

How it relates to the School Improvement Plan

The School Improvement Plan prioritises RE as a subject cherished at St Leonards.

Key Targets for the Period to the Date of the Policy review

- To comply with the expectations of SIAMS.
- To follow the Shropshire agreed syllabus for R.E. throughout the whole school, using the Understanding Christianity Scheme of Work to under pin this.
- To evaluate work across key stages.
- To audit and increase resources and maintain a well accessed central resources area.
- To ensure that RE is assessed and the assessments are robust and used to improve teaching and learning.
- To develop awareness of opportunities for spirituality and philosophy across the curriculum.
- Update long-term planning as appropriate.
- To ensure the schools vision, ethos and values are reflected across the whole school.

Tasks	Action Group	Timescale	Cost
To introduce policy to staff.	Staff	Autumn 2023	Within constraints of RE budget
To present policy to the Governors	Co-ordinator	Summer 2024	
To continue to develop the scheme of work.	Co-ordinator	Ongoing	
To continue to increase resources across the school.	Co-ordinator	Ongoing	
To monitor children's work and attainment across the school.	Co-ordinator	Ongoing	

Intentions

- To adopt this whole school policy for Religious Education, ensuring continuity, progression and challenge between classes and key stages.
- To provide pupils with opportunities to learn about religious beliefs and practices, and to encourage pupils to express responses to these, applying them to human experience.
- As a Church School to continue to acknowledge the value and importance of RE throughout the whole school.
- As a Church School to maintain a Christian vision and ethos and links to the Church of England.

Aims and Objectives

At our school, RE supports and strengthens the vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. The importance placed on the development of the whole child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in the RE curriculum.

Specifically, RE aims to enable pupils of all abilities and stages of development to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices so that they understand the importance of the Bible, the role of the church and recognise that for Christians their faith provides a way of interpreting life and its meaning.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of some of the other principal religions in the World.
- Understand how belief may impact on culture, relationships, values and lifestyle.
- Understand how belief can be expressed in a variety of ways including art, dance, music,

ritual celebration and in different cultural settings.

- Develop spiritually, morally, culturally and socially by helping them to reflect upon personal feelings, responses and relationships.
- Explore ways in which religious values and teaching have an impact on actions and decisions for people of faith.
- Encourage pupils to explore their own and others' beliefs and traditions and to teach similarities and differences, recognising that all are interpretations of, and responses to, reality.
- Encourage sensitive responses to the experiences and feelings of others, and to respect other people's values.
- Equip pupils with freedom of thought and expression.

Principles of Teaching and Learning

- There will be clear learning outcomes for all units of work, based on the appropriate expectations/levels as set out in the Understanding Christianity Scheme of Work.
- The scheme of work will ensure that there is continuity and progression for pupils and opportunities for assessment.
- A range of teaching and learning activities will ensure that pupils learn effectively and with interest. These opportunities should provide challenge and allow all pupils to develop empathic, reflective and thinking skills.
- There should be opportunities for spiritual development throughout the curriculum as appropriate.
- Pupil progress and attainment in RE will be tracked and recorded termly. Teachers should set high but realistic expectations which enable children to achieve at their own level whilst encouraging them to practise, develop and extend the skills and knowledge which they have learned.
- Progress in RE will form part of pupils' annual report to parents.
- In this school, the faiths taught in RE at KS1 are Christianity, Judaism and Islam and at KS2 Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. Other religions and world-views may be taught as enrichments.
- RE will be given at least 5% of curriculum time i.e. 1 hour per week in the foundation stage and key stage 1 and 75 minutes per week in key stage 2.

Equal Access and Outcome

The Equal Opportunities Policy will be adhered to, ensuring an entitlement for all to fully develop their potential, with all pupils having access to the full range of activities and experiences.

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Policy will be adhered to and school visits will be planned carefully with regard to the requirements for educational visits.

Implementation

- The policy will be implemented following consultation with staff and governors.
- Delivery of the policy will be monitored by the Co-ordinator and buddy.
- The RE subject leader will support and monitor the subject and will receive an adequate budget to do this.
- The RE subject leader will ensure that his/her subject knowledge and expertise are kept up to date by means of regular training.
- The RE subject leader will ensure that staff receive adequate training in the teaching and assessment of RE.
- The RE subject leader will regularly monitor the quality of RE teaching across the school.
- The RE subject leader and head teacher will ensure that the principles set out in the National Society's Statement of Entitlement for RE are implemented.

Continuity and progression

Planning grids at both key stages and reception show the continuity and progression.

Resourcing

Resources will be updated as appropriate and kept centrally. The Understanding Christianity Scheme of work is used to support delivery.

Assessment and Reporting

It is appropriate in RE to judge the extent to which pupils' understanding is based upon accurate knowledge, understanding and developed skills. Assessment will also seek to identify pupils' capacity for developing and expressing personal views and beliefs clearly and thoughtfully, and for appreciating the opinions of others. Assessment should also inform future planning.

Formative assessments may be written on individual pieces of work. Report writing is seen as a record of summative assessments, matched to learning outcomes and with national expectations in mind. Parents have the opportunity to discuss pupil progress at parents' evenings.

Progress will be recorded and monitored on ITrack.

Summary

This policy emphasises the school's Christian character and values, whilst encouraging exploration of diverse world-views. R.E. forms an integral part of children's school and everyday life, as such they should be given opportunities to develop spiritually, socially, culturally and morally. Our teaching will offer opportunities for children to develop as a whole person. They will learn how to communicate their ideas and explore values and attitudes. R.E. teaching should also contribute to raising achievement in Literacy, Speaking and Listening, Numeracy and ICT. The long and medium-term planning grids link the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity materials, giving a firm and broad foundation from which to plan.