



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Religious Education Policy

Mission Statement: *Everyone together with Jesus*

Inspired by Jesus, we grow closer to God through prayer and worship. We always do our best and show respect, love and care for everyone.

PRINCIPLES

The following are the principles we want to underlay all Religious Education in our School:

- 1. To develop a respect and understanding of fellow human beings.*
- 2. To realise that everyone is as important as themselves.*
- 3. To develop a positive attitude towards others.*
- 4. To acknowledge each other's talents and gifts.*
- 5. To respect freedom and peace.*
- 6. To respect home/life experiences.*
- 7. To respect other faiths.*
- 8. To help each child form a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith.*
- 9. To acknowledge our children's level of understanding and maturity.*
- 10. To be fully Inclusive of children, families, staff who are not Catholic.*

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School will work with:

*Pupils and parents
School Governors
The Parish and its parishioners
The local Community and the
Wider Community
Local Education
The Archdiocese of Liverpool.*

LEARNING INTENTIONS

The Learning Intentions of Curriculum Religious Education in St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

- i) To understand the search of meaning.*
- ii) To promote knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition of Christianity.*
- iii) To deepen attitudes of awe, wonder, reverence, respect and compassion.*

- iv) To ensure experience of prayer, celebration, reflection, empathy, discernment and evaluation.
- v) To familiarise the children with the technical terms of religious belief, practices, activities, stories, symbols and rituals.
- vi) To support all staff in their own journey of faith and in the delivery of Religious Education.

The fundamental skills, knowledge and concepts of Religious Education are set out in 'Come and See', our Religious Education Programme. It follows a process of:

- Explore
- Reveal
- Respond

This process helps the teachers to help the children by:

- 1) Looking at and focusing on a life experience.
- 2) Exploring this aspect of life experience.
- 3) Leading children to deeper understanding of life experiences
- 4) The presentation of the Christian understanding of this process.
- 5) Celebration in worship.
- 6) Holding on to what they have understood.
- 7) Going back and looking again at life experience.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

Religious Education is organised on a subject basis. We follow a Whole School Approach to Religious Education as outlined in 'Come and See'. Each year group concentrating only on the area of focus identified.

An allocation of 10% of curriculum time per week is given to the teaching of Religious Education. This is achieved in various ways depending upon the age of the children. The children all have books in which they put some of their Religious Education work. All teachers teach Religious Education in the school.

Parental involvement is encouraged throughout the school, throughout the Curriculum. The 'Come and See' scheme provides the framework, which is supported by a variety of activities in school.

Achievement and individual development are celebrated via:

Displays
 Acknowledgement
 End of topic Celebrations
 Assemblies

STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING PROGRESS AND CONTINUITY

Planning Religious Education is a process in which all teachers are involved.

- 1) The foundation for the planning is the Whole School, exploring each religious theme.
- 2) Every four weeks the R.E. Subject Leader introduces the new topic, outlines areas of focus, provides content ideas, resources and information.
- 3) Work plans are drawn up by individual teachers, including aims, content,

resources etc... These are monitored by the Head Teacher and R.E. Subject Leader.

FEEDBACK TO PUPILS

Feedback to pupils about their own progress in Religious Education is achieved through:

- *Effective marking*
- *Verbal acknowledgement – praise*
- *Discussion – individual*
- *Pupils own recognition shared with teacher*
- *Celebration*
- *Scrutinising work together*
- *Pupil interviews and pupil voice*
- *Monitoring work/books*

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is used to guide the progress of individual pupils in Religious Education. It involves identifying what the child has learnt and the next stage to follow. Assessment is mostly carried out by teachers in the course of their teaching. Via:

Group discussions

Individual discussions

Specific Assessment tasks

Using levels of Attainment as measures and recording.

Compilation of class portfolios with samples of ability range.

Formal Assessment guidance from the Archdiocese

PARENT, CARER AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 1) *The school website has information about the R.E. topics for parents.*
- 2) *Parents are invited to end of topic celebrations.*
- 3) *Parents are given feedback regarding their child's attainment and progress in RE during parents' evenings and as part of the end of year report*

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP – see separate policy

PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

At St Joseph's Primary School we aim to help, guide and prepare our children as future citizens. As our Mission Statement says, our school is "A place to allow humanity to flourish!" This statement permeates everything that we do in school and captures what British Values are about:-

- *Democracy*
- *The Rule of Law*
- *Individual Liberty*
- *Mutual Respect*
- *Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.*

We take every opportunity throughout the school day to teach, model and show by Example, all of the above. We have provided further information on our school website. We are proud of our school and are proud of the British Values that we live and learn about.