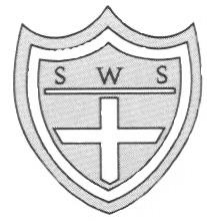




As St. Walburga's school family we walk in the footsteps of Jesus by ...

- welcoming all
- learning to be the best we can
- joining together in prayer
- serving God and one another.



St. Walburga's Catholic Primary School
Policy for Religious Education

The Governing Body of St. Walburga's Catholic Primary School have adopted this policy following consultation with staff.

We want our school to be a learning community, rooted in Gospel Values.

We want our children to be supported to become well-rounded, confident and respectful individuals, who are instilled with a life-long love of learning, a sense of social justice, and who are constantly striving to be the best they can be. This is reinforced by our Mission Statement and our Values Tree.

For all children, Religious Education is the core subject in our school's curriculum. This is reflected in the way in which the subject is taught, developed and resourced.

Religious Education should inspire and unify every aspect of school life and gives shape to the whole curriculum.

'Religious Education is unique and cannot be seen in isolation. It is not one subject among many, but the foundation of the entire education process... it stamps the Catholic school in every aspect of its operation with its distinctive Catholic character.' (Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, 1998)

Aims and Objectives

For each child:

- to receive a systematic programme of teaching based on the Roman Catholic faith
- to experience belonging to a faith community which strives to live by Gospel values
- to become familiar with religious language, symbols and styles of worship and prayer
- to promote the development of a personal relationship with God
- to develop an appreciation of Catholic Social Teaching, understanding of its impact on personal and social behaviour and of the relationship between faith and life.
- to develop an understanding and appreciation of the faith traditions of others.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Headteacher has the primary responsibility in promoting the ethos outlined in the Mission Statement and in ensuring that this policy is implemented. The Headteacher is the 'spiritual leader of the school' (CES)

All stakeholders have, by virtue of agreeing to work in a Catholic school, a responsibility to uphold the Catholic ethos of the school.

The RE leader is responsible for the promotion and development of the school's RE program. She assists colleagues in planning effectively to enable each child to achieve. She is available to advise colleagues, lead discussion, set an example of good classroom practice and be involved in leading and developing good practice amongst staff. The RE leader attends meetings with other coordinators at diocesan and local level, passes on information and helps to monitor planning, teaching and learning through the school's self-review programme.

The Governors support staff in the implementation of the RE policy. The RE governors works closely with the RE leader to ensure high standards are maintained.

The RE programme

The teaching of Religious Education at St Walburga's is based on the Diocesan programme of study, 'God Matters'. Materials provided by the Diocese are the main resources used to support the delivery of Religious Education. Our teaching incorporates children's experiences, personal feelings, questions and responses to life. The children's studies are supplemented with work linked to the events that take place during the liturgical year. Teachers are supported to plan lessons that are interesting, motivating and challenging through the use of thinking skills, creative tasks, and a question-rich curriculum. The planning cycle ensures that learning is supported, consolidated or challenged as a result of the children's response to the core lesson.

Catholic Social Teaching is taught through the 'Caritas' Scheme of Work, and underpins our work in PSHE and Citizenship.

Time Allocation

In accordance with the recommendation of the Bishops of England and Wales, a minimum of 10% of school time is given to the teaching of RE. In addition to this, the children attend and take part in daily Collective Worship, Masses and hymn practices. Time is also given to special liturgical services to celebrate key points in the liturgical year.

Recording, Reporting and Assessment

All year groups use books to record their Religious Education work, although it is recognised and encouraged that not all responses to lessons should take a written format.

Formal reporting to parents takes place once a year through the Annual Report of Achievement, and termly updates on effort and attainment are provided through the report card. Information on the themes and topics to be covered is included in the curriculum overviews which are provided to parents at the start of each term, and regular updates are provided in the school newsletter.

When assessing pupil's work, it is the RE content that is assessed. Assessment against ARE is entered onto the school's tracking system at designated times of the year.

Policy updated: October 2019

Next review: October 2022