

Barford St. Peter's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

Together we love; together we learn



Religious Education Policy

Date adopted: November 2024

Review date: November 2027

Religious Education Policy

School Foundation

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided School, we expect the Christian ethos to underpin and be reflected in all aspects of school life and all areas of the curriculum.

The Religious Education we provide is based on the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2024 which has been developed with support from both local authority SACREs and Coventry Diocesan Board of Education. We have a distinctively Christian foundation to our school, so we have a greater emphasis on the study of Christian beliefs, practices and festivals. Nevertheless, alongside this we acknowledge and appreciate that we belong to a community where people adhere to many faiths or to none.

Aims

We see Religious Education as a means by which pupils acquire an understanding of the role that religion has played in answering fundamental questions about human existence as well as shaping pupils' own worldviews.

The RE curriculum's religion and worldviews approach is based on these three key approaches –

1. Starting with the particular (e.g. individual & communal worldviews) and moving towards the general (e.g. knowledge of the recognisable familial traits of organised worldviews such as religious traditions).
2. Making use of the immediate context and available resources in Coventry and Warwickshire and schools' own immediate localities and contexts.
3. Focusing more on the ways in which people live, the diversity of worldviews and the hermeneutical nature of beliefs as interpreted and 'embodied' by those with different worldviews both here and in the wider global picture.

Teaching and Learning

Teaching and learning in Religious Education will be carried out in accordance with the whole school curriculum policy and will develop cross-curricular skills which will help the children to develop a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

We follow the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2024. The units within this scheme are divided into seven core concepts relevant to all worldviews:

- Belonging and Believing (from EYFS onwards)
- Wisdom and Guidance (from EYFS onwards)
- Personal Responsibility (from EYFS onwards)
- Living Well (from KS1 onwards)
- Authority and Power (from KS1 onwards)
- Changes (from KS1 onwards)
- Grand Narratives (from KS2 onwards)

Children will also visit the concepts of Theology, Philosophy, Human and Social Sciences as well as History throughout all their Religious Education units across the curriculum.

Within their learning, children will be presented with a 'Big Question' for their unit, in which they will explore the beliefs of different religious groups as well and the beliefs of non-religious groups. Children will focus on

case studies drawn from religious and worldviews with an aim that, over time, they will build up a growing knowledge of the familial traits of organised worldviews such as religious traditions.

Equality of Opportunity

Religious Education makes a fundamental contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. As such, RE is consistent with the school's mission statement and policy on equal opportunities. All children, regardless of race, religion, gender or ability, are entitled to the RE curriculum.

Assessment and Reporting

The attainment targets for RE fall into disciplinary knowledge and disciplinary skills within the following areas:

1. Theology
2. Philosophy
3. Human and Social Sciences
4. History

These areas will form the basis of assessing the child's progress, with each unit of study providing key questions to help teachers with their assessments. Teachers will complete an assessment grid after each unit to show children's attainment and help to track progress.

The Management of Religious Education

The RE Subject Leader will be responsible for:-

1. Producing an agreed subject policy.
2. Providing advice to teachers, appropriate resources, teaching strategies and approaches to assessment.
3. Developing an overview of the RE curriculum.
4. Co-ordinating the purchase, organisation and storage of appropriate RE resources.
5. Regular evaluation and monitoring of the quality of provision in the subject alongside the Senior Leadership Team and the School Governors.
6. Keeping abreast of recent development in the subject, attending relevant in-service courses and participating in the planning and delivery of school-based INSET.
7. Regularly reporting to the CW and RE Sub Committee of the Governing Body.