



RE Policy Statement

As a village school, we acknowledge our role in our community. Our curriculum is constantly evolving, responding to the needs of our learners and their interests by enhancing learning experiences and raising awareness from our local area to national and global arenas.

In our school, RE is a core subject and will be treated as such. Children will spend increasing time on RE from EYFS (People, Cultures and Communities) to Year 6 where they will have up to 2 hours of RE per week, ensuring that statutory obligations are met.

Aims

Our aims for all the children in RE are:

- To provoke challenging questions about the ultimate meaning of life, beliefs about God, the nature of reality and morality.
- To develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal world religions, religious traditions and worldviews, which offer answers to ultimate questions.
- To encourage pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging, in order to flourish within communities, as responsible citizens in society and global communities.
- To teach pupils to develop respect for others and their beliefs and helps to challenge prejudice.
- To prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society encouraging empathy, generosity and compassion.
 - To offer spiritual development in planned and spontaneous experiences highlighting the 'Ow's, Wow's and Now's'

How we will do this:

Our children will acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain: Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism. They will understand these religions as global world faiths. This will be taught through Understanding Christianity and the Durham Diocesan Syllabus for World Religions, based upon the three-step enquiry mode: They will be taught that in RE they think like theologians, philosophers and social scientists through the characters of Theo, Sophie and Livvy. They will learn to use their voice effectively to debate and challenge their own and others' thinking, confident that their voice will be heard and valued.

Each year, there is a thematic unit (also from the Diocesan Syllabus) which allows children to explore a particular theme, for example, 'pilgrimage' through a multi-faith lens.

The impact of RE:

By the time children leave our school we want them to:





- Ask and offer possible answers to challenging questions about the meaning of life, beliefs, nature of reality and morality.
- Have a secure understanding and knowledge of the religions studied and be confident to answer ultimate questions.
- Have the ability to ask significant and reflective questions about religion and demonstrate a good understanding of issues relating to the nature, truth and value of religion.
- Have a sense of self, identity and belonging to flourish within the community and be responsible citizens.
- Show respect, tolerance and understanding of all religions and beliefs.
- Have a strong understanding of how the beliefs, values, practices and ways of life within any religion come together.
- The ability to link the study of religion and belief to personal reflections on meaning and purpose.
 - The ability to exemplify the School's Christian values in all aspects of life that are rooted in the teachings of the Bible.

The Right of Withdrawal

The 1988 Education Act confirmed the right of withdrawal for both parents and teachers.

- Teachers who do not wish to participate in Religious Education have the right to withdraw.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education but it is hoped that the majority of parents choosing a Church School would adhere to the Religious Education curriculum too.
- Information about the provision made for Religious Education and the parental right of withdrawal is included in the school brochure.

Policy reviewed December 2025

Agreed by Academy Council at meeting XXX