

SALTFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Religious Education Policy

July 2021

Introduction

Salford Church of England Primary School

Last Updated July 2021

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Salford C of E Primary School's vision is built upon our Christian Values and complements and enhances our Mission.

We aim to nurture every child to be the best they can be and by each member of our community striving to do their best. We will all be 'Caring for our Community'

Our school's vision has a clear Christian theological underpinning, based on the Biblical narrative underpinning our Christian Values.

'Religious education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live life well together.'

RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office Feb 2019

Policy Statement

Religious Education (RE) has a very high profile within the Salford Church of England School curriculum and makes a significant contribution to preparing pupils for life in modern Britain. Learning activities provide fully for the needs of all learners. Pupils will be inspired by the subject and develop a wide range of skills such as enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection, to deepen their understanding of the impact of religion on the world. Christianity is taught as a living and diverse faith, focused on the teachings of Jesus and the Church, alongside a range of religions and worldviews. Religious Education encourages pupils to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while creating a safe space for them to explore their own beliefs and questions of meaning.

Legal Requirements

As a member of Futura Learning Partnership we are independent of the local authority and not required to follow the national curriculum or the local RE syllabus. However our curriculum must reflect: 'that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principle religious traditions present in Great Britain.' [Education Reform Act 1988].

The school teaches religious education according to the Bath & North East Somerset agreed syllabus, with additional teaching on Christianity.

Section 48 of the 2005 Education Act requires the inspection of religious education in schools which have a religious character. This is the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

Manging the right to withdraw

Parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the Religious Education curriculum. In this event, we will undertake responsibility for their supervision with regard to health and safety.

Information on these arrangements are clear on our website. There will always be opportunity for parents to discuss the contents of the RE curriculum should they have concerns.

Aims of RE

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know about and understand other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, and to appreciate the diversity, continuity and change within those religions and world views
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Teaching and Learning

In line with the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement [2019] at Saltford Church of England School we aim to provide:

- A curriculum that enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice
- A curriculum that draws on the richness and diversity of religious experience worldwide
- The opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religion and world views as lived by believers
- A pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations; and, in which real dialogue and theological enquiry takes place
- Engaging and varied learning activities that provide for the needs of all learners, supported by high quality resources
- The opportunity for pupils to develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection
- RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development and also to pupils' understanding of British values
- An assessment process which has rigour and demonstrates progression based on knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts

Implementation

- Religious education may be taught in a 'whole class' setting but with flexibility to allow for discussion, questioning and reflection in small groups and individually
- Visits to local churches and other places of worship are encouraged
- A variety of teaching approaches are encouraged: wherever possible opportunities for cross-curricular learning will be explored, linking RE learning with art, history, geography, music, DT and field study visits
- Teacher presentations, role play, drama and story telling
- Questions and answer sessions, discussions and debates

- Individual and group research
- Photographs, pictures and maps
- IT, film, websites, to research and communicate ideas.

Curriculum balance and time

Reflecting Saltford Church of England School's trust deed/academy funding agreement (?) Christianity should be the majority religion studied and should be at least 50% of curriculum time. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, should be given to RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but no less than 5% in key stages 1 and 2

Resources

Saltford School has a good collection of books, leaflets and other printed resources which are available to teachers when planning RE. There is also a collection of artefacts for use when teaching about Christianity and other world faiths.

Saltford School is also the custodian of the Bath and North East Somerset SACRE collection of resources, mainly religious artefacts in themed boxes: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism.

The RE coordinator administers the loan of these resource boxes to schools within B&NES. Teachers at Saltford Church of England School are also able to make very good use of this excellent collection of RE teaching and learning resources.

RE INSET training has ensured that teachers know where to find high quality online resources for use when planning and delivering RE lessons.

The Rector and PCC of St Mary's Church, Saltford, always extend a warm welcome to any classes who wish to use the church building as a learning resource.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment, Recording, Reporting

- Governors have responsibility for monitoring how the RE in the school reflects its Christian vision. The Foundation Governors will meet three times a year with the Rector and the RE Coordinator to evaluate delivery of RE.
- The head teacher has overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluation.
- The RE subject leader will assist the head teacher by monitoring long term and medium term plans.
- The RE subject leader will assist the head teacher by monitoring RE through work scrutinies
- The subject leader will keep a file of examples of work to demonstrate continuity and progression. (Are we still going to do this?)
- The subject leader will manage resources.
- The subject leader will endeavour to keep up to date with information, initiatives and developments in religious education and disseminate this as appropriate.
- The subject leader will be aware of staff development needs and encourage continuing professional development.
- The subject leader will facilitate the sharing of good practice.
- The subject leader will be responsible for drawing up an action plan for religious education. Generally this will be an annual plan and should be informed by this policy.

- The subject leader will liaise with the Diocesan adviser with responsibility for Religious Education

Date of last review:

Headteacher signed:

Date:

Chair of Governors signed:

Date: