

RE Policy



‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ Luke 10:27

Updated: September 2022

Next Review: September 2023

CRC Links

Article 2 (Non-discrimination): All children have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.

Article 3 (Best interests of the child): All adults should do what is best for the children. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 12(Respect for the views of the child): Children have the right to give their opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 15 (Freedom of association): Children have the right to choose their own friends and join or set up groups, as long as it isn't harmful to others.

Article 19 (Respect for the views of the child): Children have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

Article 29 (Goals of education): Children's education should help them use and develop their talents and abilities. It should also help them learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 30 (Children of minorities/indigenous groups): Children have the right to practice their own culture, language and religion - or any they choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

VISION AND AIMS

St Bridget's C of E Primary School's Vision Statement

Inspiring, nurturing and educating our children to serve God by reaching their full potential, serving our local community and by looking after our environment as global citizens of today and tomorrow.

Subject Vision for RE

- An outstanding level of religious understanding and knowledge.
- A thorough engagement with a range of ultimate questions about the meaning and significance of existence.
- The ability to ask significant and highly reflective questions about religion and demonstrate an excellent understanding of issues related to the nature, truth and value of religion.
- A strong understanding of how the beliefs, values, practices and ways of life within any religion cohere together.
- Exceptional independence; the ability to think for themselves and take the initiative in, for example, asking questions, carrying out investigations, evaluating ideas and working constructively with others.
- Significant levels of originality, imagination or creativity, which are shown in their responses to their learning in RE.
- The ability to link the study of religion and belief to personal reflections on meaning and purpose.
- A wide knowledge and deep understanding across a wide range of religions and beliefs.

St Bridget's C of E Primary School's Mission Statement:

Love Your Neighbour As Yourself

Affirms that the school will provide opportunities for enjoyment and achievement in an environment where all pupils and staff will feel emotionally and physically secure and will stay safe, whilst also looking to the members of our community as "global citizens" who will always try to support other human beings locally, nationally and globally through raising awareness, campaigning, but also through simple acts of kindness.

INTRODUCTION

RE is central to the purpose of St Bridget's C of E Primary school because, as a church school, we see that faith (in particular Christianity) informs all aspects of our life together and commits us to a search for truth, it also underpins our Rights Respecting ethos and curriculum. Alongside this, we encourage an understanding and respect of people of all faiths and none.

RE at St Bridget's explores how individuals and communities make meaning and sense of their lives through the major religions of the world. It enables pupils to know about, understand and respond to the important and ultimate questions of life. RE is taught in such a way that it inspires pupils to explore, develop their own faith and values and have respect for the faith, beliefs and values of others. It is not the practice of this school to preach to or seek to convert children. Values education permeates the curriculum at St Bridget's C of E Primary School.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Wirral Agreed Syllabus
- Chester Diocese Syllabus
- Long Term Plan, which incorporates the two syllabi.

AIMS

At this school, RE supports and strengthens the vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. The importance placed on the development of the whole child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in the RE curriculum.

Specifically, RE aims to enable pupils of all abilities and stages of development to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices so that they understand the importance of the Bible, the role of the church and recognise that for Christians their faith provides a way of interpreting life and its meaning.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of some of the other principal world religions.
- Understand how belief may impact on culture, relationships, values and lifestyle.
- Understand how belief can be expressed in a variety of ways including art, dance, music, ritual celebration and in different cultural settings.
- Develop spiritually, morally, culturally and socially by helping them to reflect upon personal feelings, responses and relationships.
- Explore ways in which religious values and teaching have an impact on actions and decisions for people of faith
- Be supported in their own search for meaning and purpose in life.
- Develop a sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- Explore concepts of love, forgiveness and sacrifice.
- Develop skills of reflection, empathy, communication, analysis, investigation, interpretation and evaluation
- Develop attitudes of respect, sensitivity, open-mindedness and self-esteem.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

As a voluntary controlled St Bridget's C of E school, the Wirral Agreed Syllabus for RE is our statutory document for the teaching of RE, however, from February 2018, we will be combining both the Wirral Syllabus with the Chester Diocese Syllabus. The impact of this will be continuously reviewed.

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from religious education lessons, but as RE is central to the life and identity of St Bridget's C of E Primary School, we would ask parents to discuss with the headteacher any reasons they might have for doing this.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- There will be clear learning outcomes (Chris Quigley milestones) for all units of work, based on the appropriate expectations/levels as set out in the RE syllabus.
- The scheme of work and the Chris Quigley milestones will ensure that there is continuity and progression for pupils and opportunities for assessment of these milestones
- A range of teaching and learning activities will ensure that pupils learn effectively and with interest.
- Pupil progress and attainment in RE will be tracked and recorded using DOL, children's work, class discussions and end of unit POP tasks
- Progress in RE will form part of pupils' annual report to parents.
- RE is taught as a discrete subject as well as part of a cross curricular approach where appropriate.
- A range of visitors will be invited to support the teaching of RE, and where possible, there will be planned visits to places of worship.

RE AT ST BRIDGET'S

By following both the Wirral Agreed Syllabus and the Chester Diocese Syllabus, we will offer a broad and balanced RE curriculum which allows our children to learn about major world faiths and develop greater understanding of Christian concepts. RE lessons use many approaches:

- Some written activities (noting that RE is not to be used to make judgements on children's writing skills)
- P4C enquiries
- Drama and role play
- Reflections on our school church services
- Reading the bible and using scripture
- Focussing on key individuals of respective faiths, but also individuals who have shown great faith and have impacted the world.

HOW RE WORK IS RECORDED AT OUR SCHOOL

- Children in EYFS and year one have a floor book
- Children from years two to six have their own RE books.
- FS2 children's work is shared as part of their learning journey.

SUBJECT LEADERSHIP

- The RE subject leader will support and monitor the subject and will receive an adequate budget to do this.
- The RE subject leader will ensure that her subject knowledge and expertise are kept up to date by means of regular training and taking into consideration the staff's CPD needs.
- The RE subject leader will regularly monitor the quality of RE teaching across the school.
- The RE subject leader will liaise with the governor who holds responsibility for RE and they will report regularly to the governing body on progress and attainment in RE.
- The RE subject leader and head teacher will ensure that the principles set out in the National Society's Statement of Entitlement for RE are implemented.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed as and when necessary.

The Headteacher and staff will review this policy in the Summer Term 2023 in accordance with the development priorities stated in the School's Development Plan. Any suggested amendments will be presented to the governing body for discussion.