

Religious Education Curriculum Statement

Mission Statement

Our school community is rooted in the Gospel and the vision of St. Catherine of Siena.

This inspires each of us *'To be who God wants us to be and so set the world on fire.'*

- We are called to love one another as we seek to be the best in all that we learn and do.
- We celebrate and nurture the gifts, talents and skills of everyone.
- We commit ourselves to grow together in faith, love and service.

More specifically, this means we aim to:



Intent

At St. Catherine's, we want to inspire every child to put their faith into action and be who God wants them to be and so 'set the world on fire' with their God-given talents. We firmly believe that the recipe to achieving the mission and vision of our school is through quality-first teaching of Religious Education and incorporating this knowledge and understanding into the core Catholic life of the school.

As set out in in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory, our aims of Religious Education are:

1. To present a comprehensive content which engages pupils and is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith;

2. To enable pupils continually to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively;
3. To present an authentic vision of the Church's moral and social teaching so that pupils can make a critique of the underlying trends in contemporary culture and society;
4. To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to respect and understand them;
5. To develop the critical faculties of pupils so that they can relate their Catholic faith to daily life;
6. To stimulate pupils' imagination and provoke a desire for personal meaning as revealed in the truth of the Catholic faith;
7. To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum;
8. To bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.

Our principle aim is that children leave St. Catherine's RC Primary School with an enriched understanding of how to put their faith into action, living out our mission of: 'Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire'.

Implementation

- To fulfil our subject intent and address the four areas of study outlined in the Curriculum Directory, the 'Come and See' programme is used as recommended by the Diocese. Teachers supplement the scheme with resources they feel are appropriate and will enhance teaching and learning.
- The themes used in the 'Come and See' programme ensure strong progression throughout the school and the revisiting of similar themes and the liturgical calendar creates a spiral and developmental approach to progression, ensuring previous learning is built upon effectively.
- In line with Bishops' Conference recommendations, 10% of curriculum time is allocated to Religious Education. This does not include Collective Worship.
- Religious Education is taught discretely but plays a central role in every area of our school life.
- Children are highly engaged in Religion lessons through the use of a variety of sources such as religious stories, scripture, religious art work, songs, music, dance and religious signs and symbols.
- Approaches include whole class teaching, group activities and individual work. Children have opportunities to work individually as well as cooperatively and collaboratively, developing their own knowledge and expertise as well as sharing experiences with other.

- Our strong Parish links enable us to make learning meaningful through regular visits from our Parish Priests, links with other visitors and retreats to the Marist Centre.
- Pupils actively participate in Mass, Feast Days and Holy Days of Obligation. This includes year group masses in KS2 which take place every 4-6 weeks and are led by children.
- Religious Education teaching is enhanced through practising prayer and worship several times a day.
- The content and delivery of collective worship in St. Catherine's progresses throughout the year groups. As children grow older and develop in their faith, they become increasingly more involved in planning and leading collective worship in different forms. Children partake in planning and leading collective worship for their peers as well as evaluating each others' practice in order to continue to grow in their active involvement in worship.
- Assessment of standards is carried out according to Diocesan guidelines. Each teacher reports on yearly attainment and termly assessments are completed to support this judgement. Spiral learning is a key focus of all formative and summative assessments.
- Assessment criteria is based on objectives and guidance from Salford Diocese and is based around the two-three strands:

AT1: Knowledge and Understanding ('learning about')

AT2: Engagement and Response ('learning from')

Analysis and Evaluation (KS2 only)

- Assessment in Religious Education is used to identify difficulties and areas for future development; provide information on strengths, progress and achievement to pupils, teachers and parents; and to inform future planning. A whole school marking scheme is in place and is used in RE books (see assessment and marking policy).
- Two-three times an academic year, the school celebrates other faith weeks. Classes are to follow the prescribed faith allocation and programme as set out in 'Come and See'. This also forms part of whole school celebrations for other faiths when year groups study the same faith at the same time.

Impact

The main impact of our Religious Education teaching is that children learn how to put their faith into action, living out our mission statement of: 'Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire'.

- Children are happy, engaged and enthusiastic learners within Religious Education. They experience a wide-ranging numbers of learning challenges and know appropriate responses to them.
- Through Religious Education and the Catholic life of our school, children deepen their faith and fulfil their God-given talents
- Children of all abilities and backgrounds achieve well in Religious Education, reflected in the great progress that reveals a clear learning journey. Children talk enthusiastically about their learning and can relate it to other areas of their life and the wider world.
- Children live their faith in an active and positive way, always aware of the presence and love of Christ guiding them.
- Children develop their relationship with God and become religiously literate
- Through religious practice, the church's traditions of prayer and worship are upheld
- Faith plays a central role in the lives of children and the decisions they make.
- Children learn to develop their confidence, resilience and are actively engaged in student leadership and in wider society.
- Children are able to define, describe and discuss areas of Religious Education. They can confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, comparing, giving reasons, explaining the meaning of biblical stories and considering the impact of beliefs.
- Children can reflect and consider important and open questions in Religion, developing their oracy and written skills in explaining their views.
- Children will know key events in the liturgical calendar, as well as knowing about a variety of Saints, how we can learn from their examples, and historical religious events and figures. They will be able to make links between Jesus' life and teaching and link it to their own lives, making links between different forms of Christian action, such as an in rituals and charitable acts.