

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY POLICY STATEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Mission Statement

By working together at St Mary's school we aim through Jesus Christ to share God's love, helping our community to learn, grow and make a difference.

## Aims:

Through the content and delivery of the curriculum we aim to:

- nurture our children's faith and in general foster their religious, spiritual and moral development
- share our faith experiences along with those of the children
- explore the religious dimensions of questions about life and purpose within the Catholic tradition
- encourage the children to recognise and respect other faith traditions
- enable children to develop as responsible, caring members of society
- to give R.E. a high priority in the schools curriculum, not only a subject in its own right, but permeating every subject, and extending into every area of the schools daily life.

## Objectives:

We seek to accomplish these aims by:

- The implementation of a programme of study that is *Come and See* - supplemented by *Statements to Live By* and *Ten:Ten*.
- offering respect and dignity to each person acknowledging that all are made in the image and likeness of God
- Providing opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection/meditation both as a school community and within a class or group situation (see *Collective Worship Policy*).
- developing a knowledge of and familiarity with the life of Jesus, both through the scriptures and the continuing life of the Church
- Identifying appropriate connections between our formation in Faith and the wider curriculum.
- RE is taught as a separate subject but links are made into other curriculum areas wherever possible.

## **R.E. in the National Curriculum:**

Our Faith underpins all aspects of the curriculum at St. Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy. We also nurture the respect for other faiths through the study of Judaism in the Autumn Term and one other faith in the Summer Term. The whole school study Hinduism, Sikhism or Islam on rotation.

## **Planning for continuity and progression:**

This is integral to the programme of study; "Come and See". We also aim to ensure that links are maintained with homes and the parish, acknowledging that the first responsibility for the formation of Faith lies with parents.

We believe it is essential for the understanding of the topic that teachers (and TAs) reflect on the theme pages 'Come and See for yourself' and staff reflection at the start of every topic. This is led by the Headteacher or the RE Subject Lead for all staff at the beginning of a staff meeting and staff participation is encouraged.

## **Teaching Methods:**

Our R.E. programme encourages us to share faith experiences with the children using a broad range of teaching and assessment methods. The assessment focus tasks are termly and are provided by the diocesan Education Department.

## **Special Needs:**

We recognise the uniqueness of each of our children. Therefore it is our responsibility to ensure that the children's learning is appropriate to their individual needs.

## **Equal Opportunities:**

It is our responsibility to ensure that religious education in its fullest sense is accessible to all who come to St. Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy.

## **Resources:**

Resources are made freely available to staff, in hard copy and on the school ICT network. Resources in constant use are located in individual classrooms. New 'other faith' materials are located in labelled drawers next to the other faith board. Use is also made of other resources, such as visitors and videos.

## **Assessment and Record Keeping:**

Assessment will be continuous and on going throughout the year. It will be largely based on the units of work within the 'Come and See' scheme, and will relate to the new qualitative marking on a weekly basis and with links to the driver words within the scheme.

At the beginning of each topic, children will have a target card including 4 targets for the topic, at a level appropriate to their development.

The methods of assessment will be:-

- Specific tasks and questioning.
- Group discussion
- Role Play
- Assessment Focus Task

Children will be encouraged to be part of the assessment process by assessing their own and others' work.

## **Role of the Co-ordinators:**

- The Coordinator monitors the teaching of RE through a scrutiny of work and planning, and pupil interview.
- The Coordinator will collate information provided by class teachers on class tracking sheets.
- The co-ordinator purchases and organises resources and offers support and advice to colleagues.

**Date of Policy:**

**November 2019**

**Date of next review**

**Novemebr 2021**