

# **ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY**

## **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 school's 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*
- 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, Catholic Social Teaching principles 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. We also nurture the respect for other faiths through the study of Judaism in the Autumn Term and one other faith in the Summer. The whole school study Hinduism, Sikhism or Islam on rotation. We empower pupils of other faiths to share their faith during these times.

## **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. We use the Trust Assessment Framework to assess how well pupils know and remember their RE knowledge.

## **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 and adapted accordingly. This will take the form of different types, including adult support or resources to support pupil's in showing what they know, understand and wonder about.

## **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. Resources in constant use are located in individual classrooms. 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 marking and feedback policy with an emphasis on retrieval.

### **Role of leaders including the RE Leader and Governors:**

- Leaders monitor the teaching of RE through a range of monitoring activities, data analysis, scrutiny of work and planning, lesson visits and pupil voice.
- The co-ordinator purchases and organises resources and offers support and advice to colleagues.
- Leaders will ensure staff receive the appropriate training and support to deliver RE to the highest standard.

**Date of Policy:**

**November 2019**

**Date of next review**

**November 2025\***

**\*However, this may take place sooner in light of the pending new Religious Education Directory.**