



**RE and World Views Policy**  
**Darrington CE Primary School**

## Introduction

At Darrington CE Primary School, we strive to equip pupils with the skills to become lifelong, motivated and independent learners by providing a curriculum that is broad, balanced and relevant to their needs. We work extremely hard to enable all of our pupils to have the enthusiasm, confidence and skills to achieve their full potential.

### **Shine, Share, Flourish**

We **shine** our light for each other  
We **share** peace, respect and friendship  
We **flourish** and grow together

“Your word is a lamp to my feet, a light to my path.” Psalm 119

This is a Church of England School. We welcome all children and their families from the local community. Looking towards Jesus Christ as our example, we aim to provide a quality education that enables all children to shine within a caring Christian environment. We also aim to create a happy, safe environment where children and adults can respect and value each other. We encourage children to take pride in belonging to our school and all that it offers. We foster skills such as co-operation, tolerance, understanding of others and a respect for differences. We aim, through our actions within the life of the school, for pupils to encounter the Christian faith in an open and exploratory way. We aim to develop the knowledge that some people have a Christian faith that they value and by which they choose to live. Others may have a different faith or no faith. We encourage children to learn to respect world views and beliefs which are different to their own. We trust that by our actions we will lead children to want to search for a faith that has meaning for them.

We encourage everyone to shine, share and flourish as unique individuals and together as a school. We aim to equip children with the confidence, knowledge, skills and understanding to positively shape their future. Our Christian values underpin our school vision. The three Christian values that were chosen by staff, governors and children in support of our vision are: Peace, Friendship, Respect

## Ethos

As a Church of England Academy (previously a Voluntary Controlled School) we welcome the opportunity to place the Christian faith at the heart of everything we do. We maintain a Christian ethos of support and acceptance where each individual is valued as unique and created in God's image. RE in a Church School should be of the highest standard, always striving for excellence, reflecting the school's distinctive Christian character. We aim to ensure that we promote quality learning experiences for all our pupils. Our aim in school is for the standards in RE to be at least as high as in other core subjects and regularly above them. RE has a high profile within the curriculum and our Christian vision aims to enable all pupils to flourish. The RE curriculum also contributes to British values and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. The curriculum enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding.

## Aims of Religious Education and world views

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.

- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and world views being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places
- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking

## Statutory duties

These are based on the following legislation:

- The Race Relations Act 1976;
- The Race Relations Amendment Act 2000;
- The Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005;
- The Sex Discrimination Act 1975, as amended by the Equality Act 2006;
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006

## Learning and teaching

We follow the Wakefield Agreed Syllabus for RE and use the recommended Understanding Christianity resources. We ensure that the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement is met by giving children access to a high-quality Religious Education curriculum. Understanding Christianity is centred around eight core concepts which are at the heart of Christian belief. These are God, Creation, the Fall, People of God, Incarnation, Gospels, Salvation and Kingdom of God. These core concepts are explored through Biblical texts placing the texts and concepts within the wider Bible story. Each unit incorporates three elements: making sense of the text; understanding the impact and making connections.

**Making sense of the text:** developing pupils' skills of reading and interpretation; understanding how Christians interpret, handle and use biblical texts; making sense of the meanings of texts for Christians.

**Understanding the impact:** examining ways in which Christians respond to biblical texts and teachings, and how they put their beliefs into action in diverse ways within the Christian community and in the world.

**Making connections:** evaluating, reflecting on and connecting the texts and concepts studied, and discerning possible connections between these and pupils' own lives and ways of understanding the world. Similarly, the other world views and faith units encompass the three elements: **making sense of belief; understanding the impact and making connections.**

**Making sense of beliefs:** Identifying and making sense of core religious and non-religious concepts and beliefs; understanding what these beliefs mean within their traditions; recognising how and why sources of authority are used, expressed and interpreted in different ways, and developing skills of interpretation.

Christianity is the main focus taking up at least 50% of the curriculum content covered in each year group. Pupils also have the opportunity to learn about other religious faiths and with more in depth studies of Islam and Judaism in KS1, Hinduism in LKS2 and Islam in UKS2.

We aim to teach Religious Education in a lively and stimulating way, encouraging lots of discussion but also providing opportunities for children to be quiet and reflect on what they have seen and learnt. We strive to create opportunities for pupils to experience first-hand experience or real-life experiences e.g. we sensitively hold mock baptisms and wedding ceremonies and we invite visitors into school to share/talk about their faith whenever possible. We have RE themed weeks, allowing RE to be taught in a cross-curricular approach, and for pupils to

gain a richer and deeper insight of the theme being taught. Our themed weeks include work around Easter, Christmas, and Bible Stories. Visits to other places of worship further enrich pupils' experiences.

### **Assessment in RE**

Within RE, we have developed a range of assessment strategies that are used across school. The purpose of assessment in RE is to ensure that pupils improve what they know, understand and can do regarding the different aspects of RE they are learning about.

We have developed a range of assessment grids containing 'I can' statements linked to the outcomes for each unit taught.

Staff are regularly monitoring and assessing children throughout each unit and record whether the children are working towards, at standard or greater depth at the end of each unit.

Pupils' work and thoughts are recorded each lesson either in the class big book or in individual RE books. Spirited Art work gives pupils the opportunity to think deeply and teachers are able to assess what pupils have learned from reflections shared.

Discussions with pupils and feedback measures the impact RE has on individuals and will inform future planning. Opportunities for daily reflections in Candle Time also allows teachers to gain an insight into pupils' understanding of RE taught.

### **The Leadership and management of Religious Education**

The leadership and management of work in Religious Education is the distinctive responsibility of the headteacher and governors. The Religious Education subject leader ensures that staff expertise in RE specifically is a priority. All staff teaching RE have access to subject specific professional development by national RE Today and Leeds Diocese.

### **Staff Continued Professional Development**

We ensure that all staff (including support staff) have professional development opportunities related to Religious Education so that we can offer a quality curriculum to our pupils. Staff have received both external training around Understanding Christianity and internal training from the RE co-ordinator. Regular staff meetings are provided to keep staff up to date with useful resources and planning and assessment materials. Staff are supported with planning and assessment where necessary and we recognise the need to regular moderation of RE work. Learning walks and/or lesson observations in RE are carried out to ensure that our principles are implemented fully and staff development is supported. As a school we are also part of the All Saints RE Leaders' group who support one another sharing good practice, knowledge and resources. The RE Leader is a member of SACRE (Standing Advisory for Teaching of RE and is kept up to date with RE developments and implementation of the Wakefield Agreed Syllabus.

### **Resources**

We have centrally stored high-quality resources in the hall. We have numerous artefacts and symbols from religions. We also have a selection of books, posters, and teacher resource books. Access to NATRE membership We have several Godly Play boxes to support teaching Bible Stories. All these resources support teaching throughout each term.

## Equal opportunities

All pupils have equal opportunity to take part in Religious Education without their own faith, family faith or no faith being compromised.

## Right of withdrawal

RE is provided for all pupils and is inclusive and broad minded. Parents in the UK still have the right to withdraw their children from RE on the grounds that they wish to provide their own religious education. (School Standards and Framework Act 1998 S71 (3). This will be the parents' responsibility. However, it is our school's aim to talk to parents to ensure that they understand the aims and values of RE before honouring this right. (Wakefield Agreed Syllabus for RE, 2018 – 2023).

<b>Policy title</b>	RE Policy
<b>Monitoring and review</b>	Headteacher
<b>Links</b>	Equality Statement, Collective Worship, Behaviour Policy,
<b>Staff responsible</b>	Headteacher
<b>Committee responsible</b>	Pupils and Standards Committee
<b>Date approved</b>	March 2023
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