



Lamberhurst St Mary's CEP (VC) School

Religious Education Policy

Date of approval by Governing Body	2 December 2019
Signature of Chair of Governors	Mr P Edgesmith
Signature of Headteacher	Mrs C Bromley
Date Due for review	Autumn Term 2021

Policy Statement for Religious Education

RATIONALE

The Staff and Governing Body at Lamberhurst ST Mary's CEP (VC) School is committed to providing a high quality religious education (R.E.) curriculum, essential to meet the statutory requirement for all maintained schools to teach a broad and balanced curriculum. At the heart of R.E. in our school is the teaching of Christianity, rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ. There is a clear expectation that as an inclusive community our school also encourages learning about other religions and world views and fostering respect for them.

AIMS

- To enable our pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable our pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling them to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values and begin to reflect critically and responsibly.
- Appropriate to age, pupils develop religious literacy, beginning to be able to articulate theologically informed and thoughtful accounts of Christianity as a living and diverse faith, developing an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning, begin to engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and those of none.
- To develop a wide range of higher level skills such as enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection to deepen their understanding.

CURRICULUM

R.E. is taught from Year R - Year 6 following the Rochester Diocesan Plans which are based on SACRE. This is supported by the 'Understanding Christianity' Scheme of Work and provides a challenging and robust curriculum based on an accurate theological framework.

R.E. lessons draw on the richness and diversity of religious experience, within a pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations. Dialogue and theological enquiry takes place, allowing our pupils to deepen their understanding of core religious concepts and world views. R.E. teaching helps pupils to think about the relevance of ideas to their own lives and also makes a positive contribution to SMSC development.

In the Foundation Stage R.E. is taught explicitly and also linked to Early Learning Goals, particularly 'Understanding of the World', 'PSED' and 'Communication and Language'.

Lessons use a wide range of teaching styles and resources including external speakers/teachers such as Family Trust and our clergy; visits; role play; stories; DVD's; Books & Artefacts; individual and group learning.

Learning is recorded in pupils R.E. books, Class Black Books and our Whole School R.E. & Worship Black Book.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment follows the Rochester Diocesan Guidance. Formative 'Unit' assessment questions help pupils to self and peer assess and teachers to check understanding. New Rochester Assessment symbols (Sept 2017) are stuck into R.E. books to support the unit questions.

This formative assessment throughout the year informs the summative teacher judgement and comments recorded in pupils Annual Report to Parents.

MONITORING & REVIEW

Monitoring and Review of the curriculum, assessment and standards is the responsibility of the R.E. Subject Leader together with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team.

Monitoring also includes visits by governors, particularly Foundation Governors and includes: Learning Walks, Pupil Conferencing and Work Scrutiny.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Foundation of our school is Christian and follows Anglican teaching, however all pupils are included and respected for their beliefs and views. We encourage all pupils to participate in R.E. lessons and ensure that sensitivity is applied at all times to those pupils who are of different faiths or express no faith.

WITHDRAWAL

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from all or part of Religious Education. A discussion with the Headteacher is requested before any decision to withdraw is made. As a point of information parents have never withdrawn their children from R.E during the current Leadership of the school.