



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL & NURSERY

Religious Education Policy

This is our school.

Together we worship; Together we learn; Together we belong.

With the love of God, our dreams and ambitions come true



September 2023

Policy Date: September 2023

Policy Status: Statutory Policy

Awaiting approval by Governing

Body October 2023

Review Cycle: 18months or as required

Next Review Date: January 2025



At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery we are proud to provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every member of our community is valued and respected.

Mission Statement

**'Together we worship, Together we learn,
Together we belong – with the love of God...
our dreams and ambitions come true.'**

Our broad, balanced, creative curriculum and enrichment activities provide opportunities for everyone to achieve and succeed. Together we take pride in making a positive contribution to our school and the wider community.

This policy should be referred to in conjunction with the curriculum, assessment and teaching and learning policies.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

"Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment".



“Catholics believe that Religious Education is not one subject amongst many but the foundation of the entire education process. The beliefs and values it communicates should inspire and unify every aspect of school life.”
(Bishops Conference of England and Wales 1988)

Religious Education is the core subject within our curriculum and influences all that we teach and enables us to develop the whole person. The Religious Education Directory promotes children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepares all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of the present and the future. As well as this, promoting the Gospel Values of the Church also underpins everything we do and the ethos of the school.

As a Catholic school, we seek to develop an ethos in our school whereby the spiritual, moral, social and cultural needs of all within our school community are supported. This will be expressed through our response to the Gospel call to love.

Religious Education Intent

- Provide each child with the opportunity to develop their relationship with God.
- Promote knowledge and understanding of Catholic faith and life.
- Develop awareness and understanding of the impact of faith upon our daily lives.
- Foster attitudes of respect towards all who live in our society.
- Develop skills linked to the reflection upon and practice of religious belief.

Implementation of Religious Education

The Religious Education Directory (RED) for Catholic schools and Colleges is designed to provide guidance for the delivery of Religious Education teaching in schools. ‘To Know You More Clearly’ is the name of the new Religious Education Directory, which is to be fully implemented by 2025.

The roll out of the RED across the school for the academic year 2023-2023 will be as follows:

Religious Education Directory							
Year Group	Summer 2 Branch 1	Autumn 1 Branch 1	Autumn 2 Branch 2	Spring 1 Branch 3	Spring 2 Branch 4	Summer 1 Branch 5	Summer 2 Branch 6
EYFS	Preparation *	Evaluation and preparation *	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation
Year 1			Preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation
Year 2					Preparation	Evaluation and preparation	Evaluation and preparation
Year 3 +							Preparation

The remainder of the school will continue to follow The 'Come and See' Religious Education Program (which has been written by the Liverpool Archdiocese) until the new curriculum is being taught in all classes.

Impact on spiritual development

As a Catholic community we strive to support the pupils in the development of their spiritual life, so that through reflection, pupils will acquire insights and attribute meaning and purpose to their personal existence. We believe that this begins with a personal experiential encounter with the living Christ and that once experienced this needs to be fostered and developed through:

- a) personal and community prayer
- b) a sense of God's presence throughout the life of the school
- c) liturgies where pupils become aware of entering His presence
- d) hearing His word spoken in Scripture
- e) experiencing the community of the faithful
- f) celebration of the Mass
- g) a varied curriculum that creates a sense of awe and wonder
- h) quiet times of reflection
- i) opportunities to express personal views and insights while searching for the truth together

Impact on moral development

At the heart of the Church's and the school's moral teaching lies the understanding that we love because we are first loved by God. We are called to reflect God's love for us in our relationships with others and, since His love is unconditional and freely given, we have the freedom to respond to His love, or reflect Him. How we understand and use this gift of freedom is crucial to our moral development – to our becoming fully human. At Sacred Heart we believe:

- a) love is at the heart of the Catholic understanding of morality
- b) morality touches all parts of the curriculum
- c) every human action has a negative or positive influence on life
- d) individuals are created by God to choose what is right or wrong
- e) we, as a Church, hate the sin but love the sinner
- f) wrongs need to be dealt with but the individual must be treated with respect
- g) pupils should grow in their understanding of what is right and wrong so as to become fully moral beings

Impact on social development

God did not create us to live in isolation, but to live in social unity. Therefore, it is part of the responsibility of the school to support pupils, and their families, in the formation of good social attitudes. The school community will nurture our pupils to:

- a) learn about the obligations, constraints and satisfaction that go with membership of a community
- b) become aware of their own identity as individuals and to take account of the feelings of others
- c) participate in a supportive way in group and school activities so as to develop co-operative skills that will help us all live together
- d) learn what it means to be a responsible citizen

Impact on cultural development

Cultural development is the increasing understanding and command of those beliefs, values and customs, knowledge and skills which taken together form the basis of identity and cohesion in society. Cultures will grow and change; features of the past influence and present and will shape its future form. Pupils at Sacred Heart will;

- a) be introduced to the values and customs held within our Catholic cultural tradition
- b) become aware of cultures of the past through historical programmes of study
- c) respect the values, customs and cultural heritage of people who belong to other faiths or ethnic cultures
- d) have their cultural achievements outside school acknowledged and valued

Planning

It is the responsibility of the Religious Education Lead to ensure that the curriculum topic and objectives are mapped and planned out across all of the year groups from EYFS to Year 6.

Class Teachers are responsible for medium term planning which highlights the key scriptures being studied and the activities that the children will complete in order to develop their understanding of Catholic Life and scripture.

Delivery

The RE curriculum is delivered by the class teacher, who follows the 'Come and See' programme or the new Religious Education Directory objectives. It is delivered through a variety of teaching methods using a cross curricular approach that encompasses drama, music, art, history and literacy. Two and a half hours are

dedicated to the teaching of Religious Education per week.

Assessment

- a) Teachers evaluate pupil achievement at the end of each topic.
- b) At the completion of each topic, children complete a 'Big Question.
- c) Children's progress is recorded on Sonar at the end of Autumn, Spring and Summer terms
- d) At the end of term, the RE co-ordinator analyse standards for all pupils.

RSE

Relationships and Sex Education is taught on a termly basis and as a school we follow the 'Journey In Love' programme and TenTen. This programme was compiled by the Archdiocese and is taught through a Catholic Lens.

All are welcome

Each half term, a story is shared with the children. A diverse range of themes are covered to develop children's understanding of the changing world we live in.

Monitoring

- Termly monitoring of Religious Education Books
- Termly monitoring of planning
- Termly monitoring of Prayer and Liturgy
- Termly monitoring of learning environment
- Yearly monitoring of lessons