

Wrockwardine Wood CE Junior School

Religious Education Policy



“Love, Laugh, Learn”

We will ignite the ability in all to **‘Love, Laugh and Learn’**, recognising the extraordinary and wondrous in everything and in everyone. Our rich, varied and creative curriculum, together with our Christian values, will empower all to flourish following Jesus’s promise **‘I have come to give life and life in all its fullness.’** (John 10:10)

Our School Christian Values



Our Vision

At Wrockwardine Wood Church of England Junior School, Religious Education (RE) is at the heart of our curriculum and is central to our Christian vision:

"Following Jesus' promise: 'I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness.'" (John 10:10)

We believe every child is uniquely created and deeply loved by God. Through high-quality Religious Education, we enable pupils to flourish spiritually, academically, morally, socially and culturally. RE provides opportunities for children to develop wisdom, knowledge, understanding and respect, preparing them to live well together in an increasingly diverse world.

Religious Education equips pupils with the knowledge and skills to engage thoughtfully with Christianity and a range of worldviews. It encourages curiosity, respectful dialogue and critical thinking while nurturing children's own spiritual development and understanding of themselves and others.

As a Church of England school, RE is a rigorous academic subject and a key expression of our Christian distinctiveness. It reflects our commitment to enabling every member of our school community to experience "life in all its fullness."

Our Christian Values

Our curriculum is rooted in our six core Christian values:

- Compassion
- Friendship
- Joy
- Thankfulness
- Wisdom
- Courage

These values shape our curriculum, classroom relationships, enquiry questions, discussions and opportunities for reflection. They help pupils consider how faith influences beliefs, decisions, relationships and actions.

Aims of Religious Education

Through Religious Education we aim to:

- develop secure knowledge and understanding of Christianity as a living world faith;
- deepen pupils' understanding of the Bible and the teachings of Jesus Christ;
- enable pupils to explore how Christian beliefs influence daily life;
- develop understanding of a range of world religions and worldviews represented in Britain today;
- encourage curiosity and thoughtful questioning about faith, identity, meaning and purpose;
- promote respect, dignity and understanding for all people;
- foster spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- develop pupils' ability to think critically and express reasoned viewpoints;
- prepare children for life in modern Britain and as responsible global citizens;
- inspire pupils to become courageous advocates who seek justice, compassion and hope.

Legal Requirements

As a voluntary controlled Church of England school, Religious Education is taught in accordance with:

- The Education Act 1996
- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The locally agreed syllabus for Religious Education
- The Church of England Statement of Entitlement
- The Church of England Vision for Education

RE is a statutory subject for all registered pupils.

Parents retain the legal right to withdraw their child from Religious Education.

Curriculum Intent

Our Religious Education curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure pupils:

- know and remember more over time;
- develop a deep understanding of Christianity;

- gain secure knowledge of other principal world religions and worldviews;
- ask increasingly thoughtful theological, philosophical and ethical questions;
- make meaningful connections between beliefs, practices and lived experiences;
- develop religious literacy;
- understand diversity within and between religions;
- appreciate the influence religion has on individuals, communities and society.

Learning is carefully sequenced so that knowledge builds progressively from Year 3 to Year 6.

Curriculum Implementation

Religious Education is taught weekly through carefully planned sequences of learning.

Our curriculum includes:

- Christianity as the principal religion studied;
- Judaism;
- Islam;
- Hinduism;
- Sikhism;
- Humanism and non-religious worldviews where appropriate.

Learning is enquiry-based and encourages children to investigate significant questions about belief, identity, meaning and purpose.

Lessons include opportunities for pupils to:

- investigate sacred texts;
- explore theological concepts;
- engage in respectful discussion and debate;
- analyse religious art, music and symbolism;
- visit places of worship;
- welcome visitors from faith communities;
- participate in drama, storytelling and role play;

- reflect personally on learning;
- make links between faith and everyday life.

Learning is enriched through:

- Collective Worship;
- Spiritual Reflection;
- Big Questions;
- RE Days;
- Church visits;
- Community partnerships;
- Cross-curricular learning;
- Outdoor learning.

Developing Religious Literacy

We believe pupils should leave our school as religiously literate young people who can:

- use accurate religious vocabulary;
- explain key beliefs and practices;
- interpret religious texts;
- compare similarities and differences;
- understand diversity within faith traditions;
- respectfully evaluate different viewpoints;
- articulate their own ideas thoughtfully and respectfully.

Developing Oracy in Religious Education

Across Wrockwardine Wood CE Junior School, oracy is embedded at the heart of teaching and learning and is developed consistently across the curriculum through both structured and incidental opportunities. Building on our shared belief that oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, deepen understanding and engage with others through spoken language, teachers explicitly teach and model new vocabulary in every subject, ensuring pupils are exposed to ambitious, topic-specific language. This vocabulary is revisited through talk prompts and discussion tasks enabling pupils to practise and apply it in meaningful contexts. Staff carefully model high-quality spoken language through sentence stems and structured

responses, which are then scaffolded to support all learners to speak with increasing confidence and clarity. Opportunities for paired talk, group discussions, debate and reasoning are planned into lessons, allowing pupils to refine their listening and speaking skills progressively. Through this consistent and inclusive approach, we nurture confident, articulate speakers with rich vocabulary who are well equipped to succeed across the curriculum and beyond.

Spiritual Development

Religious Education makes a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual development.

Children are given regular opportunities to experience:

- awe and wonder;
- reflection;
- stillness;
- creativity;
- questioning;
- appreciation of beauty;
- exploration of mystery;
- personal meaning.

Through carefully planned learning experiences, pupils consider life's "big questions", including:

- Who am I?
- Why do people believe?
- What is truth?
- What makes a good life?
- How should we treat others?
- What gives people hope?

Inclusion

Religious Education is fully inclusive.

All pupils, including those with SEND, disadvantaged pupils and pupils with English as an additional language, are supported to achieve well.

Teachers:

- adapt learning appropriately;
- provide scaffolding where necessary;
- use visual resources and practical learning;
- challenge higher attaining pupils through deeper questioning;
- ensure every child can access meaningful learning.

Our curriculum reflects diverse cultures, traditions and lived experiences and promotes equality, dignity and belonging.

Assessment

Assessment is ongoing and informs future planning.

Teachers assess pupils through:

- discussion;
- questioning;
- written work;
- creative outcomes;
- presentations;
- pupil reflections;
- end-of-unit assessments.

Assessment focuses on pupils' ability to:

- know and understand religious concepts;
- interpret beliefs and practices;
- make connections;
- think critically;
- communicate ideas using appropriate vocabulary.

Assessment is used to identify next steps and ensure pupils know and remember more over time.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The quality of Religious Education is monitored by the Headteacher, RE Subject Lead, RE Link Governor and Christian Distinctiveness Advisor through:

- lesson observations;
- learning walks;
- book looks;
- pupil voice;
- planning scrutiny;
- assessment analysis;
- staff discussions;
- governor monitoring.

Monitoring informs ongoing curriculum development and professional learning.

Leadership

The RE Subject Leader is responsible for:

- ensuring high-quality teaching and learning;
- monitoring curriculum implementation;
- supporting colleagues;
- leading professional development;
- maintaining high expectations;
- ensuring statutory requirements are met;
- evaluating the impact of RE;
- contributing to school improvement;
- preparing for SIAMS and Ofsted inspections.

Links to Collective Worship

Religious Education and Collective Worship are distinct but complementary.

Collective Worship is invitational and focuses on worship and spiritual reflection.

Religious Education is an academic subject which develops knowledge, understanding and critical thinking.

Together they strengthen the school's Christian vision while respecting the beliefs of every member of the school community.

Impact

The impact of Religious Education is seen in pupils who:

- understand Christianity as a living and diverse faith;
- demonstrate secure knowledge of a range of religions and worldviews;
- ask thoughtful theological and philosophical questions;
- show respect for different beliefs and cultures;
- think critically and communicate confidently;
- understand how faith shapes people's lives;
- demonstrate our Christian values in their daily actions;
- recognise injustice and show compassion for others;
- contribute positively to school and society as courageous advocates.

Religious Education contributes significantly to pupils' personal development, cultural understanding, character education and spiritual flourishing. It enables children to grow in wisdom, hope, dignity and community, living out our vision of '**life in all its fullness**'.

Alignment with SIAMS and Ofsted

Our Religious Education curriculum supports the expectations of both the Church of England SIAMS Inspection Framework and the evolving Ofsted inspection framework by:

- placing the school's Christian vision at the centre of curriculum design;
- ensuring pupils develop deep knowledge and understanding over time through a carefully sequenced curriculum;
- promoting inclusion, belonging and equity so that every pupil can flourish;
- developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding;
- fostering respectful dialogue and appreciation of diversity;

- nurturing character through our Christian values of Compassion, Friendship, Joy, Thankfulness, Wisdom and Courage;
- providing opportunities for courageous advocacy and active citizenship;
- preparing pupils for life in modern Britain and a diverse global society;
- ensuring strong subject leadership, effective assessment and continual curriculum improvement.

Religious Education is therefore a vital part of our wider curriculum, enabling every child to know more, understand more deeply and flourish as confident, compassionate and reflective learners, living out our vision of **"life in all its fullness."**