

St. Luke's Church of England V.A. Primary School

High standards, high expectations.

Religious Education Policy

This policy is based on the values and aims of our school. We see it as important for this school to function in an atmosphere of respect and trust. The life of this school and our whole curriculum are based on our living faith.

At St. Luke's our aims are to educate and explore questions of a spiritual and moral nature. We encourage an attitude of caring, co-operating and appreciation of others within a broadly based Christian Framework. We aim to give the children a sense of their own identity and prepare them for living in the world today.

It is intended that this policy will be used in conjunction with the Scheme of Work for Religious Education, which gives details of what pupils in different year groups will be taught.

Aims

In this school we attempt to:

- Help the child to understand God's care and work in the world through worship, stories, exploration, drama and personal relationships.
- Encourage care and respect for others and the world and to develop an awareness of the needs and beliefs of other people.
- Develop skills and attitudes, which will support our children in their personal, spiritual, moral and social developments.
- Encourage through corporate worship, an appreciation of belonging to the school community.
- Encourage an appreciation and understanding of Christianity and the significance of events within the Church's calendar and their relationship to Christian life.
- Foster an understanding and consideration of other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom. Key Stage 1 focus on Judaism and Festivals such as Shavuot and the Chinese New Year. Key Stage 2 focus on Islam and Hinduism.
- Develop an understanding of how attitudes and behaviour are influenced by beliefs, values and commitments.
- Develop knowledge of the teachings of key religious figures and how they apply to everyday life.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of expression of worship, prayer, celebration and pilgrimage.
- Help the child to understand and consider many forms of religious expression through a range of activities. E.g. Dance, drama, art and music.

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- Consider the qualities with which Religious Education is concerned such as reflection, empathy, communication and enquiry by using a variety of activities, e.g. artefacts, music, visual art, photographs, videos, creative, factual and reflective writing, drama and simulation, visits, discussion and meeting visitors invited from the local community into school.
- Teach Religious Education in whole school, Key stage, whole class or group basis. It may be taught discreetly or as a part of an on-going topic, e.g. 'God's wonderful creation' when studying plants and animals.

Curriculum and School Organisation

Religious Education is taught in each year group, for a minimum of one hour a week. As from September 2005 the main responsibility for teaching RE rests with our co-ordinator as part of our PPA workload reform. She teaches Foundation Stage and years 2-5. Class teachers support the Christian ethos and teaching throughout the whole Curriculum.

Teachers take their topics from the Year group grids – Curriculum Overview for Religious Education which is based upon the Agreed Syllabus Reaching Out Reaching within.

St Luke's school is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all pupils. All children have an entitlement to class Religious Education lessons. Individual learning needs are catered for within this by appropriately differentiated activities.

We welcome visitors who are able to add interest or expertise to any area.

Religious Education, as a subject, has a school co-ordinator, Mrs Stephanie Brown, who is responsible for the policy, scheme of work and monitoring Religious Education and assessment throughout the two key stages. The co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring that adequate resources are available and that long, medium term and weekly plans show evidence of progression and continuity within the subject.

Resources such as Religious Education books, poster and photographs can be found at both sites in the Religious Education storage trolley. Some Religious Education resource materials are kept in the Year 2 classroom, e.g. Books, Bibles, Artefacts, and Video programmes of the Bible in Animation. An inventory of resources has been updated, and a copy has been given to each class teacher.

Assessment will be part of the planning and concerned with the development of concepts, attitudes, skills and the development of knowledge covered in the Statements of Attainment. Guidelines for assessment have been given to each class teacher.

The Co-ordinator Role – see policy on Co-ordinator role.

Reviewed: March 07

Next Review Date: March 08