



CROSCOMBE C of E (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Croscombe is a Church of England Primary School and this policy has been written with reference to its Christian foundation.

Mission Statement

**CROSCOMBE
A
COMMUNITY
OF
LEARNERS
THROUGH CHRISTIAN CARE, COLLABORATION, CURIOSITY and
CONTRIBUTION**

We are a Church of England Primary School and this policy has been written with reference to our Christian foundation.

Aims and objectives

Religious education enables children to investigate and reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people. At Croscombe Church of England School we expect children to develop a sound knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world faiths. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We see the importance of learning from religions as well as about religions.

Our aims of Religious Education are to help children:

- develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences through personal reflection;
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world faiths;
- develop an understanding of a commitment to a religious faith;
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
- develop a deeper understanding of Christian and British Values.
- have respect for other peoples' views;
- to reflect on experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life;
- develop investigative and research skills, including the use of ICT to enable discussions about religious issues.
- To use a variety of teaching styles, eg:
 - Using "Core concepts"
 - Use of key questions and core knowledge to promote deeper learning
 - A balance between whole class, group and individual work
 - The use of RE focus days and weeks
 - The use of visits and visitors

The legal position of Religious Education

RE has an important part to play as part of a broad, balanced and coherent curriculum to which all pupils are entitled. Our school curriculum for religious education meets the legal requirements of

- Education Reform Act 1988
- Education Act 2002
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998



In addition it is in line with guidance in

- Religious Education in English Schools: Non-statutory Guidance 2010
- The National Curriculum 2014

While the statutory requirement for RE does not extend to children under compulsory school age, RE forms a valuable part of the educational experience of our children in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The right to withdraw

If parents wish to withdraw their child from religious education, written notice should be given to the school governors.

Teachers have the right to withdraw from the teaching of RE.

Teaching and learning

The Religious Education curriculum forms an important part of our school's Spiritual, Moral and Social teaching (Cross reference SMSC Policy) and promotes education for citizenship. Our school RE curriculum is planned in accordance with the Bath and Wells Diocesan Syllabus 'Awareness, Mystery and Value'.

We aim to develop our children's sense of awe and wonder about their world and knowledge of the major faiths. In addition we enable children to extend their own sense of values and promote spiritual growth. Children are encouraged to explore and debate through active learning. Trips to local places of worship and visits from faith group representatives enrich their understanding. As a school we aim to take opportunities to enrich our children's experience of different faiths, traditions and cultures.

We believe that RE is an important curriculum subject in its own right and also makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports wider community cohesion.

Curriculum planning in religious education

The long-term planning follows a 1, 2 or 3 year rolling programme according to the needs of the children.

RE will form at least 5% of curriculum time for all children.

We follow the Awareness Mystery and Values locally agreed syllabus.

EYFS

We teach Religious Education to all age groups. Religious education is an integral part of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Religious Education aspects of the children's learning are related to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals, contributing particularly to

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Communication, Language and Literacy

Characteristics of Learning

Throughout the foundation stage, children are introduced to the world of religion and belief. They learn to recognise that religion is important to some people in their local community. They reflect on what is important to themselves and others. They engage with RE through a range of resources. They reflect on and share their own feelings and become aware of the feelings of others.

Assessment and recording

We assess learning and attainment in Religious Education by making informal judgments as observed during lessons. End of units assessments are also used. Levelled 'I can' statements are highlighted on each child's individual attainment sheet. These grids are passed on as each child progresses through the school. Comments are made and questions asked as necessary to assist children in their learning.

The school uses the SIAMs self-evaluation tool (2018) to help to assess the efficacy of our RE curriculum.

There is a designated governor with responsibility for RE who reports back to Full Governor Meetings (currently Rev Christine Butler)
The Diocese carry out monitoring activities through their education team. (Pauline Dodds)

Resources

There is on-going development of resources to support the teaching of Religious Education. To supplement this, artefacts and books can be borrowed from Resources for Learning and the Schools Museum Services.
The Parish Church remains a much used resource.
Lydia's Labyrinth can be used as an aid to reflection and meditation.

Roles and responsibilities

The Subject Leader:

- Supporting colleagues in the planning, teaching and assessment of RE
- Monitoring RE throughout the school including collection of data of levels of attainment
- Being informed about current developments in RE
- Reviewing the RE policy in light of changes and development

Governors

Signed:..... Chair of Govs

Signed:..... Headteacher

Date of Adoption: 2018

Date of Review: 2020