CHRIST CHURCH C.E. FIRST SCHOOL

-Religious Education Policy-

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INTRODUCTION

Christ Church C.E. School is committed to providing an holistic education for all children that enables them to "be the best they can be in God's beautiful world. The school is proud to be a Church of England Primary School and recognises that Religious Education (RE) plays an important part in achieving this.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Education Reform Act (1988) places RE as part of the basic curriculum; a statutory subject that is an entitlement of all pupils. Since 1998, RE has been given high status within the curriculum.

RE is taught in accordance with the Trust Deed, and based on the guidance issued by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education through the Understanding Christianity material, which determines the distinctive nature and context for RE.

The school has also taken account of the Staffordshire LA RE Agreed Syllabus and uses Schemes of Work produced by LDBE for teaching about other faiths.

The school recognises the right of withdrawal of pupils by their parents, but works actively to promote participation by all pupils; currently there are no withdrawals.

RATIONALE

Religious Education is taught to all year groups and has a dedicated slot on the school's weekly timetable to ensure that the school is meeting its obligation as outlined in the Scheme of Delegation of the KET. It is an important part of the wider programme of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

- Spiritual - widening pupils' vision of themselves and their own experience, within the context of a growing awareness and understanding of God.
- Moral - helping each pupil to develop and explore their own informed values.
- Social - helping pupils to understand some major forces shaping the values in our society.
- Cultural - aiding pupils in exploring aspects of their own cultural heritage and in developing positive attitudes towards diversity.

Our aim is to be a truly inclusive school where children's academic achievement and personal development are of equal importance.

As a Church of England school, we have a strong Christian ethos which underpins this vision.

To help us achieve this vision the children were asked to think about our school motto '"Be the best you can be in God's beautiful world" and have chosen the Christian values that they feel have the most importance to them. As a result, these are our school values:

- Love
- Hope
- Friendship
- Forgiveness
- Perseverance
- Generosity

RE TEACHING

Through our RE curriculum, we aim to:

- To enable pupils to learn about and understand Christianity as a living world faith, by exploring core theological concepts
- To enable pupils to develop knowledge and skills in making sense of biblical texts and understanding their impact in the lives of Christians
- To develop pupils' abilities to connect, critically reflect upon, evaluate and apply their learning to their own growing understanding of Christianity, of religion and belief more widely, of themselves, the world and human experience.

There are seven dimensions (programmes of study) to the teaching of Christianity. They are:

1. God
2. Creation/Fall
3. Incarnation
4. Salvation
5. Gospel
6. Salvation
7. Kingdom of God

By following this curriculum, we aim

- To offer a full and positive presentation of living Christianity with an opportunity for encountering the Christian life in Anglican and other contexts.
- To appreciate the religious dimension of life and provide opportunities for spiritual growth.
- To promote an awareness and insight into other faith communities in Britain and in the world.

We consider Valuing All God's Children and Church of England Vision for Education 2016 in our drive to ensure good practice and embed these themes within our teaching and learning.

The RE Subject Leader is responsible for:

- A detailed scheme of work showing how the 7 dimensions of Christianity are developed across each key stage; as well as knowledge of other faiths.
- Supporting staff in their planning and delivery of RE.
- Ensuring Religious Education has status within the school.
- Keeping in touch with developments and disseminating this information as appropriate.
- Undertaking personal development in this area and ensuring there is provision for staff training. Monitoring RE provision, practice and outcomes.
- Ensuring assessment strategies are in place to identify standards.