



**DARWEN
ST JAMES**

RE



**Nurturing ambition
through a living faith
in English at Darwen
St James' is...**



Nurture

At Darwen St James' CE Primary Academy, we provide a consistently nurturing environment where every child feels happy, safe, and valued, giving them the space to develop individual spirituality and personal faith. Throughout the school, weekly RE lessons provide children with facts and traditions about Christianity and other world religions. However, a central focus of our RE curriculum is offering opportunities to think about the impact of biblical and historical events, how these connect to pupils' lives today, and how this learning will shape their future. We believe this knowledge, combined with deep reflection, provides our children with the tools to become well-rounded citizens who communicate effectively with their local community and the wider world.

Ambition

As a school, we promote ambition by supporting children to move forward in their lives. Our RE curriculum highlights individuals in the Bible who were ambitious to fulfill God's will through perseverance and hope, alongside wider curriculum links to diverse people of faith who achieved their goals. Through reflection, children explore their own ambitions and identify the small steps needed to succeed. In a diverse world community, we embed religious knowledge so pupils flourish with confidence, develop high expectations, and strive to be the best they can be from the very beginning of their education.

Faith

We live out five core school values through our actions and deeds: **Perseverance, Courage, Hope, Love, and Friendship.** Every unit of our RE curriculum connects closely to these values. Children are encouraged to explore their meaning to people of faith and reflect on demonstrating these values in their daily lives. Alongside a growth mindset approach, our dedicated staff cultivate a safe culture that allows children to have a go, learn from their mistakes, and persevere through challenges.

Citizens

Children are prepared through RE to become confident future citizens of a global society. Our staff recognise and proactively break down barriers to learning—including providing specialised support for children with SEND and those learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)—ensuring all children are supported to achieve. By exploring God's Big Story and comparing it with other faiths and worldviews, children build empathy, respect, and mutual understanding.

Curriculum Intent, Implementation & Impact Statement



Intent

* **Core Purpose:** Enable every child to flourish through high-quality RE, preparing them to live, work, and thrive in a global, diverse community.

* **Biblical & World Connections:** Help children make connections between biblical events and modern life, while developing mindfulness and respect for the beliefs, cultures, and ways of life of others.

* **Personal & Spiritual Growth:** Develop a sense of awe and wonder, teach children their unique place within home, school, and the community, and explore how religious teachings impact personal decisions.

* **Skills & Mindset:** Provide memorable learning experiences in a vocabulary-rich environment to promote positive attitudes, critical thinking, reflection, and lifelong learning.

Implementation

* **Curriculum Structure:** Taught as a discrete lesson for 1 hour per week following the *Questful RE* syllabus (Reception–Year 6). Nursery pupils explore key Bible stories linked to school values.

* **Sequential Learning & Integration:** Subject leaders ensure knowledge and skills are taught in a logical, progressive order, making cross-curricular links to History, Geography, and PSHE.

* **Enrichment & Dialogue:** Enhanced by studying world faiths and calendar festivals (e.g., Diwali, Eid), host visitors, trips, and RE days. We foster an open environment for healthy discussion, comparison, and expression of views.

* **Targeted Support & Pedagogy:** Explicit teaching of key vocabulary and a consistent Growth Mindset approach. Adaptations support SEND and EAL learners using visual tools and explicit modeling to ensure full participation. (Note: Parents retain the right to request pupils be excused from all or part of RE).

Impact

* **Academic & Personal Achievement:** Children develop detailed knowledge, strong questioning skills, and progress well across the curriculum, with SEND pupils achieving the best possible outcomes.

* **Systematic Assessment:** Evaluated through teacher assessments using *I know* and *I can* statements. Progress is reviewed half-termly by the subject leader and formally reported to parents annually.

* **Quality Assurance:** Curriculum effectiveness is continuously monitored through governor meetings, book looks, learning walks, and pupil voice.

* **Holistic Outcomes:** Children develop creatively, spiritually, socially, and emotionally. Grounded in Christian values, pupils emerge as resilient, empathetic, and thoughtful citizens prepared for the next stage of education and life.