



RE Policy

We belong, show kindness, give hope and feel proud.

(Good Samaritan – Luke 10: 25-37)

Written by: Headteacher

Ratified by:

Date: October 2024

Review Date: October 2026



1. Aims of RE

Religious Education in a Church Aided School has a unique position in the curriculum. Whilst it is approached as an academic subject in its own right, it is a means to help children explore the spiritual dimensions of life and to lay the foundations for understanding Christianity as a living faith and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.. RE is organised in accordance with the Church of England's *Statement of Entitlement for RE*.

RE enables pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and non-religious world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world. RE offers the opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religion and world views as lived by believers. It teaches pupils to express ideas and insights and contributes to children's understanding of British values; to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; to a greater appreciation of global issues and other broader educational dimensions.

The aims of RE in our school are to:

- Develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain
- Encourage respect for diversity and promote inclusive attitudes
- Support pupils in exploring moral, ethical and philosophical questions
- Enable pupils to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences

We believe, at this school, that RE both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. It allows pupils to explore and enrich their own beliefs and values. Our caring ethos and the value which we place on the development of the whole child is reflected in the RE curriculum. It is central to the ethos of the school.

2. Purpose of this policy

This policy should be implemented within the context of our vision, instrument of government, aims, values and ethos as a Church of England School. It relates to the teaching and learning of Religious Education for all pupils except where parents/6th form exercise their right of withdrawal. It should be read in conjunction with our other school policies.

3. RE and the Law

RE is for all pupils

- Every pupil has an entitlement to Religious Education.
- RE is a necessary part of a 'broad and balanced curriculum' and must be provided for all registered pupils in state-funded schools in England, including those in the sixth form, unless withdrawn by their parents (or withdrawing themselves if they are aged 18 or over).¹
- This requirement does not apply for children below compulsory school age (although there are many examples of good practice of RE in nursery classes).
- The 'basic' school curriculum includes the National Curriculum, RE and Sex Education. In Church schools RE has the status of a core subject.

Religious Education in Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools



Religious Education (RE) in a Voluntary Controlled Primary School – Policy Summary

Religious Education (RE) is a statutory subject for all pupils and forms an important part of the school's curriculum. As a Voluntary Controlled (VC) school, RE is delivered in accordance with the **Locally Agreed Syllabus**, as determined by the Local Authority and SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education). RE in our school is **educational rather than confessional**. It provides pupils with opportunities to develop knowledge and understanding of **Christianity**, which has a significant place in the syllabus, alongside other **major world religions and worldviews**. Through RE, pupils are encouraged to explore beliefs, practices and values, and to reflect on their own ideas in a respectful and inclusive environment. Through high-quality RE, we aim to prepare pupils for life in a diverse society, fostering understanding, respect and thoughtful reflection.

4. Right of Withdrawal

We firmly believe that RE is an important subject in the children's learning. It is a major contributor to the ethos of our school. However, we fully recognise the legal right of parents to withdraw their children from all or any part of RE on the grounds of conscience. We do encourage parents to contact the Headteacher if they have any concerns or questions about RE provision and practice at the school.

5. Organisation of RE at Oak CE Primary

RE at Oak CE Primary is taught in discrete lessons of 45 min a week for EYFS and KS1, with additional RE curriculum days and visitors to school. In KS2 this will be taught discretely in sessions of one hour every week. We use the RE Today Primary Curriculum which is in line with the [National Content Standards for RE](#).

The Foundation Stage

During the foundation stage, children begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects, visiting places of worship and through celebration. Children listen to and talk about stories. They are introduced to specialist words and use their senses in exploring religious beliefs, practices and forms of expression. They reflect upon their own feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.

In Key Stage 1 (KS1)

RE in KS1 is enquiry-based. At KS1, pupils study Christianity and one other religion in depth (Islam) and include other world views.

In Key Stage 2 (KS2)

At KS2, children study Christianity, Sikhism, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam and non-religious world views such as Humanism.

The LTP for RE is in Appendix 1.

6. Differentiation and Inclusion

RE is taught in line with the Equality Policy and SEND policy. Children who have been identified as having special educational needs receive provision that is different from and additional to the differentiated provision available to all children.



7. Assessment, Recording and Reporting of RE

RE is an academic subject and as such is assessed, recorded and reported on along with other subjects in the curriculum. This will be done in line with Oak CE Primary's Assessment Policy.

8. Health and Safety

Appropriate risk assessments are carried out when necessary, such as when handling artefacts and visits out of school.

9. Disability and Gender Equality

The RE coordinator will be cognisant of the school's Disability and Gender guidance policy and make all reasonable adjustments in order to meet the needs of all children.

