



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Policy for Religious Education

Mission Statement

At Sacred Heart Primary School, We serve our diverse community with open and honest hearts. Through our thoughts, words and actions, we share God's love with all. A place where everyone is loved and valued, we strive to always be the best that we can be.

School prayer

O Sacred Heart of Jesus,
let me love God,
love my neighbour
and love myself.
O Sacred Heart of Jesus,
I place my trust in you.
Amen

Introduction

This policy reflects the mission of the Catholic Church in relation to the teaching and learning of Religious Education. It is intended for all teaching staff and governors and is available to parents on request.

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, our commitment to Religious Education is central to who we are, shaping our curriculum and guiding our mission. We work closely with parents to nurture a deeper understanding of God in their children and to foster a meaningful connection with the Church's liturgy.

Through Religious Education, we encourage children to discover and celebrate the unique gifts and talents they and others possess. Rooted in Gospel values, we strive to create a loving, inclusive environment where every child feels valued and respected. Our goal is to ensure that all members of our school community experience a sense of safety, joy, and inspiration as they grow in faith and knowledge.

At Sacred Heart, we expect all of our school family to keep to our "Beehaviour promises":

Bee Responsible

Bee Respectful

Bee Kind

Intent

Religious Education serves as the foundation from which all other subjects are nurtured and taught, forming the heart of our core curriculum and playing a vital role in the holistic development of our children.

Our curriculum is guided by key documents such as the *Religious Education Directory for Catholic Schools and Colleges in England and Wales* and the *Diocese of Lancaster RE*

Curriculum advice. These provide the framework for our teaching, enhanced by resources approved by the Diocese, including *Vine and Branches*, and additional CAFOD materials.

We aim to provide children with opportunities to explore and question their religious understanding and experiences. By fostering critical thinking, emotional awareness, and reflective practices, we encourage children to approach their faith with curiosity and openness. Our goal is to inspire a deep respect and understanding of the Catholic faith and the faith traditions of others, laying a strong foundation for their future lives.

Our inclusive and equitable curriculum considers the needs of all children, regardless of gender, race, religion, ability, or social background. It actively promotes the four golden threads woven throughout our educational approach: inclusion, diversity, a growth mindset, and success. This ensures every child feels valued and empowered to thrive.

Implementation of the RE curriculum

As a Catholic school, Religious Education is at the heart of our entire curriculum, shaping and enriching every aspect of school life. It constitutes at least 10% of teaching time excluding prayer and worship. It serves as a foundation for all other subjects. Our staff are dedicated to embedding RE throughout the curriculum, consistently highlighting the presence and influence of God in our daily lives.

The RE curriculum is delivered primarily using the diocesan recommended Vine and Branches scheme which follows the Religious Education Programme for Catholic Primary Schools. Content is reviewed yearly to ensure that our classes are working at age related expectations, whilst ensuring that learning tasks are differentiated to meet the needs of specific groups and individuals and fulfil all the requirements of the RE Directory.

Teachers are entrusted with the responsibility to design and deliver engaging, creative, and inspiring lessons that align with curriculum objectives while meeting the unique needs of their pupils. Lessons are thoughtfully sequenced to build on prior knowledge, revisit key themes, and delve deeper into scripture.

Marking

All pupils have individual RE books to record their work, allowing them to reflect on their learning and track their progress. Additionally, Seesaw is frequently used as a digital platform for children to document and share their discussions, ideas, and reflections. This combination of traditional and digital methods supports a rich and varied approach to learning in Religious Education, encouraging creativity, collaboration, and personal expression.

Marking pupils work is approached positively and constructively so that it celebrates success and encourages future learning. Marking is carried out regularly, in line with the school's Marking and Feedback Policy; next steps in learning are indicated where appropriate to further drive understanding.

Assessment in Religious Education focuses on evaluating what pupils know, understand, and can demonstrate; it does not assess their faith or the practice of it.

A variety of methods are used to assess learning, including observing and questioning pupils during lessons and reviewing their written work through marking. Additionally, both internal and external moderation play a key role in maintaining the quality and accuracy of assessments. External moderation, conducted with other schools within the Diocese, ensures that our assessment standards are rigorous, consistent, and validated.

We currently assess using **Primary Religious Education Assessment Framework** in alignment with the *Ways of Knowing* document. This framework focuses on assessing what pupils understand, can discern, and how they respond to their learning in Religious Education. It provides a structured and thoughtful approach to evaluating their engagement with key concepts, ensuring assessments are meaningful and aligned with curriculum objectives.

EYFS pupils are assessed on entry to give a baseline of religious experience, awareness and understanding as they start school. They are then tracked throughout the year, in line with all other pupils, according to their phase objectives.

Monitoring

The RE Subject Leader and the Head Teacher are responsible for overseeing the standards of teaching and learning in Religious Education. Monitoring activities include observing lessons, reviewing children's work, holding pupil progress meetings, providing staff CPD and INSET opportunities, and conducting pupil interviews. Annual action plans are shared with governors and are evaluated and updated each term.

Both the Head Teacher and the RE Subject Leader attend at least one termly training session led by Diocesan advisors, ensuring that new insights and guidance are shared with staff and governors to continually support and enhance the quality of Religious Education across the school.

Parents

Parents are informed about their child's progress in RE during two parent evenings held throughout the year. Additionally, a comprehensive report on RE progress is included in the end-of-year school report. This ensures that parents are kept well-informed about their child's learning, attainment, and next steps in Religious Education.

This Policy was reviewed by Emma Webb in September 2026

Due to be renewed: September 2027