



**“Let your light shine before others”**

Matthew 5 v 16

## **RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY POLICY**

### **1. Rationale and Vision**

Religion and Philosophy involves the exploration of fundamental questions concerning human experience and spirituality and the attribution of meaning to such experiences within personal belief and religious tradition.

### **2. Aims**

- 2.1 To acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions (and humanism) represented in Great Britain.
- 2.2 To develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and culture.
- 2.3 To develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings of the principal religions, and humanism represented in Great Britain.
- 2.4 To enhance spiritual, moral, cultural and social development by:
  - 2.4.1 developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings can relate to them
  - 2.4.2 responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions, and to their own understanding and experience
  - 2.4.3 reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study.
- 2.5 To develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own and towards living in a society of diverse religions, cultures and beliefs.

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil or member of staff and it helps to promote equality at this school.

### **3. Objectives**

- 3.1 To identify, name, describe and give accounts in order to build a coherent picture of religious and non-religious beliefs.
- 3.2 To explain similarities and differences between, and within, religious practices and lifestyles.
- 3.3 To explain the meaning of religious language, story and symbolism.

<b>Responsible Committee:</b>	<b>Quality of Education committee</b>
<b>Date Last Reviewed:</b>	<b>November 2023</b>
<b>Due to be Reviewed:</b>	<b>November 2025</b>

- 3.4 To reflect on aspects of human nature, identity, personality and experience especially in the light of one's own beliefs and experience.
- 3.5 To identify and respond to questions about the nature and purpose of life on earth.
- 3.6 To give an informed and considered response to religious and moral issues.

#### **4. Procedures and Practice**

- 4.1 R&P will be planned to engage all children through a range of differentiated activities.
- 4.2 Schemes of work will be based on the Somerset Agreed Syllabus.
- 4.3 Pupils will be engaged in a variety of activities which will be structured to allow opportunity for reflection, exploration of beliefs and values, questioning and enquiry, investigation and personal response.
- 4.4 A wide range of teaching approaches will be employed ***in line with the Selwood standards and other policies in relation to teaching and learning***, including the use of artefacts; music; dance and movement; visual art; multi- media presentations; photographs; creative, factual and reflective writing; drama and enrichment opportunities such as visits to St Mary Redcliffe and John Wesley's New Room.
- 4.5 Every effort will be made to ensure that pupils see R&P as relevant to them by the way it engages their lives, their experiences and with contemporary issues.
- 4.6 Teaching and learning in R&P will be planned in such a way that it contributes to the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of the pupils.
- 4.7 Requests from parents that pupils be withdrawn from R&P will be in writing addressed to the Headteacher. The Head of R&P will have the opportunity to discuss such requests with the parents concerned.

#### **5. Review and Evaluation**

- 5. Trustees in the Quality of education committee will review and evaluate this policy.