



St Aidan's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CIDARI**

'Fulfilling potential and growing in God.'



Acceptance, Love, Wisdom, Accountability, Youthfulness, Service

Religious Education Policy

2025

Our school vision

At St. Aidan's we want every child and adult to discover and develop their unique, God-given talents so that they may flourish as individuals and build strong foundations for a bright future.

'Fulfilling potential, growing in God'

Rooted in a rich Christian tradition, our vision is guided by:

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." — John 10:10

We equip our children with the knowledge, skills, and character to thrive in an ever-changing world, fostering them as:

Resilient and Critical Thinkers who confidently solve problems.

Loving citizens who build healthy, safe relationships based on mutual respect and our Christian values.

We spark a deep love of learning through a progressive, broad and creative curriculum that allows inquisitive minds to flourish. We focus on building knowledge and vocabulary to ensure that children 'know more and remember more' over time.

We broaden our children's Cultural Capital through rich, first-hand experiences, celebrating individual creativity and innovation both inside and outside the classroom.

Our Values

Our vision is actively lived out through our core Christian values of Acceptance, Love, Wisdom, Accountability, Youthfulness and Service, which shape every part of life at St. Aidan's.



We want every child and adult to discover and develop their unique, God-given talents so that they may flourish as individuals and build strong foundations for a bright future.

Religious Education (RE) Intent, Implementation, and Impact

Intent (What we want to achieve)

Our Religious Education (RE) is central to life at St Aidan's. We provide a rich, varied curriculum that gives all children a firm grounding in the principles and practices of Christianity (specifically the Church of England), while preparing them for life in a multicultural and diverse society.

We actively promote respect, tolerance and understanding for all beliefs. Our curriculum encourages children to be continuous questioners and spiritual explorers, helping them to grow in understanding and to appreciate the 'awe and wonder' of the world created by God. In all phases, children explore the world faiths represented in Britain today, learning about their traditions, lifestyles and festivals.

Implementation (How we teach it)

We follow the Blackburn Diocese 'Questful RE' syllabus, adapting its units to meet the unique needs of our school family.

Lessons are stimulating and challenging, incorporating the eight Christian concepts: God, Creation, Fall, People of God, Incarnation, Gospel, Salvation and Kingdom of God (God's Big Story). Our teaching encourages discussion, reflection and creative tasks in a safe environment, using specific subject vocabulary. We use a diverse range of resources, including texts, artwork, videos and music, and regularly discuss and celebrate stories from the Bible.

Allocation:

Christianity occupies 60% of the RE timetable.

40% of RE time is devoted to World Faiths (including Islam, Judaism and Sikhism).

Fundamental British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC) are actively promoted and interwoven through our lessons.

Impact (What our children will be like)

As a result of our RE curriculum, children will:

Confidently discuss and explain Bible stories and teachings, using them to influence their own lives and behaviours.

Show courageous advocacy, standing up for their beliefs and challenging injustice they perceive in the world.

Develop a strong sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish in their communities and as citizens in a diverse world.

Build empathy, generosity and compassion by understanding and respecting people with different faiths and beliefs, directly challenging prejudice.

We aim for our children to take their RE learning forward, allowing it to inform their choices and values as they continue on their Christian journey into adulthood.

Our Commitment to Inclusion

We are deeply committed to providing an inclusive, broad and balanced education for all children, regardless of ability, background or individual needs.

Adaptive Teaching: We use effective planning, quality first teaching and adaptive strategies to support children with Special Educational Needs (SEND), disabilities and those learning English as an additional language.

Equal Opportunities: We ensure equality of access to the whole curriculum. All staff actively challenge any incidents of prejudice or racism, ensuring every child is treated fairly, equally and with respect.

Diversity: Through RE and across all subjects, we develop awareness of ethnic, cultural and economic diversity, fostering positive attitudes toward all people.

Religious Education Subject Leadership

The Religious Education subject leader will:

- raise the profile of Religious Education St. Aidan's Primary School
- lead and manage the Religious Education effectively and have an 'expert' knowledge of the Religious Education curriculum overview, including all unit/topics across the whole school;
- confidently articulate the Religious Education curriculum design and have a clear and ambitious vision for Religious Education (Intent, Implementation and Impact);

- monitor, evaluate and enhance the quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education;
- ensure that there is clear progression in knowledge, skills and vocabulary in Religious Education, across school;
- support, guide and motivate colleagues in their CPD, as well as build capacity across the school;
- identify the subject's needs in the context of whole school priorities
- audit Religious Education resources and identify resource needs and costings in Religious Education School Development Plans, managing allocated budgets effectively;
- provide strategic direction and development of Religious Education across the school;
- develop their own expertise through training and evidence-based research and investigate how implementations are embedding;
- effectively communicate with the Religious Education link Governor, sharing and celebrating Religious Education;
- review and update the Religious Education Policy, as necessary.

Religious Education across the Curriculum

Although Religious Education is taught as an implicit subject within our school, it does provide many opportunities for links with other curriculum areas, particularly English, PSHE, History, Geography and the creative arts. In addition, there are strong links between Religious Education and cross curricular themes and dimensions, including multi-cultural education, equal opportunities, citizenship and health education. As stated previously, it also has strong links with collective worship.

Through our Religious Education lessons, we teach children about the values and moral beliefs that underpin choices and behaviour. We also promote the values and attitudes required for citizenship in a democracy by teaching respect for others and the need for personal responsibility. In general, by promoting tolerance and understanding of other people, we enable children to appreciate what it means to be positive members of our pluralistic society.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

At St Aidan's, we recognise that a child's personal development plays an important role in their ability to learn and achieve. As such, we aim to provide opportunities that enable children to explore and develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally (SMSC) through Religious Education. Spiritual development within RE in our school enriches and encourages the children's discovery of God the creator, of their 'inmost being' and of the wonder of the environment. Moral development is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, which offers children a secure foundation stone on which to make decisions and build their lives. Social development enriches children's understanding of what it means to live in a Christian community where Jesus' command to love one another is put into practice. Cultural development provides opportunities to develop an understanding of Christianity as a worldwide, multi-cultural faith that has an impact on the lives of millions of people.

Resources

We have access to all resources provided as part of the online 'Questful RE' syllabus. We are building up sufficient resources in our school to be able to teach all our Religious Education teaching units. We keep resources for religious education in a central store. There are bibles and holy books from other World Faiths, for both key stages, and a collection of religious artefacts which we use to enrich teaching in religious education.

Assessment and Recording

The assessment and expectations of RE in the Blackburn Diocesan syllabus are based on the Ladder of Expectation which provides symbols that link to the end of Key Stage expectations detailed within the syllabus. Each unit has the expectations outlined to provide guidance for assessment. We also use link its, learn its, check its, show its and know its as an ongoing assessment tool.

Evidence is collected in the following ways:

- Class Religious Education Scrap Book
- Individual work in children's books;
- Photographs of displays;
- Records of the Religious Education subject leader's monitoring: scrutiny of work, pupil voice and lesson observations.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be carried out by the:

- Senior Leadership Team;
- Religious Education Subject Leader;
- Religious Education Governor;
- Class teachers.

Parental Rights of Withdrawal

Parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education as they may in any school. The Worship and Religious Education provided by our school is in accordance with the Church of England Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school. If a request for a withdrawal is made, the headteacher will explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation.

Subject Leader: Mrs F Moss

Date: September 2025