



RE Statement of Intent



Intent

As a Catholic school, the principles of Catholic education remain at our core here at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. We recognise RE as a core subject, so we follow a Diocesan-wide curriculum which includes the scheme of work 'The Way, The Truth and The Life'.

At St Joseph's our pupils are given the best possible opportunities to reach their full potential, spiritually and academically. We do this by promoting high standards of educational achievement, pastoral care and by modelling of the Gospel values.

We strive to build on the foundations of faith started at home as our parents are our children's first educators. We seek to provide an environment where beliefs and values of the Catholic faith are taught, explored, developed and nurtured. In conjunction with our parent community, we aim for all our children to believe in their own potential, in an environment where they can flourish, succeed and achieve.

It is also our intention that pupils at St. Joseph's will enjoy their R.E lessons. RE lessons should be faith-filled, enjoyable lessons where each child feels they belong to our school community.

We are committed to the Catholic faith, recognising and valuing every individual as special and unique in the image and likeness of God.

Religious Education at St. Joseph's respects and promotes each child's capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and spirituality. Our curriculum leads our children to aspire not to have more, but to be more; children are taught about God's love; Christian responsibilities; children are provided with experiences of church, as well as being taught to be respectful and understanding of people and traditions from other Faith backgrounds (in KS2).

These intentions fall in line with our mission statement; 'You are precious in My eyes.'

Implementation

At St. Joseph's we follow the 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' Religious Education programme in line with guidance from the diocese. This programme is followed throughout school from Reception to year 6.

'The Way, The Truth and The Life' provides:

- Opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection in implicit and explicit ways.
- Children with the language of religious experience.
- Opportunities to explore and develop religious stories, and events.
- Appropriate materials about other Faiths.

In RE children explore religious questions about life. Links are made with children's own experiences and universal experience. It will raise questions and provide material for reflection. It enables children to explore their beliefs, values and way of life.

Overview of Content

Each module covers the following aspects within a theme:

REVELATION - we respect the revealed nature of Christian faith

CHURCH - we consider how Revelation gives life to the Church

CELEBRATION - the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church

LIFE IN CHRIST - the moral life and the pursuit of holiness

Allocation of Curriculum Time

Ten per cent of the curriculum teaching time is set aside for RE. This is approximately two and a half hours per week in KS2 and two and a quarter hours in KS1 and EYFS, which can be taught in a one longer block or two separate lessons per week.

Other faiths and other world religions

Catholics are called to be committed to respecting people of other faiths and to recognise that God is at work in them. In the multi-faith society of today, RE should introduce children to the background and beliefs of people of other faiths so that prejudice and misunderstanding can be overcome from an early age. As a multi-faith school, it is important that our children have a good understanding of other faiths and the value that this diversity can bring to all our lives.

Although there is no requirement in EYFS/KS1 to teach about other faiths, the children should know about special celebrations of other children in the school.

Impact

Children leave St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School with detailed knowledge and skills across the curriculum and, as a result, achieve well. Learners are ready for the next stage of education and recognise that nothing is ever impossible. Our children feel safe. They take risks, ask questions, make mistakes, learn to trust, share their feelings and grow.

At St. Joseph's our children are happy learners and through RE they are able to deepen their appreciation of their faith. The children of St. Joseph's are able to talk, define, describe and discuss areas of RE. They confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, comparing and explaining the meaning of bible stories and considering the impact of beliefs.

Through the provision outlined above, the impact of our RE curriculum on our pupils means that the majority of children:

- Achieve age related expectations in RE at the end of the academic year
- Are inspired by what they have learnt and continue to develop their knowledge of both the Catholic faith and other faiths
- Are prepared for life in modern Britain and that they leave St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School knowing that they have a purpose in the world and a responsibility towards one another.