



St Silas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind Mark 12:28-34

Loving God and each other

We work together to be the best that we can be

To be a beacon of learning and love, empowering every child to discover their unique potential, flourish with confidence, and become a responsible, resilient member of the community. Inspired by our faith, we nurture curiosity and a lifelong love of learning, working together in partnership with God to ensure that every pupil has the best opportunities available to them and the experiences to be the best that they can be.

BELONGING LOVE SERVICE THANKFULNESS

Policy

Policy Written by:	A. Morgan
Policy Agreed:	September 2025
Policy Agreed By:	K. Haczycki
Review Date:	September 2026

Our School Vision

Our Vision is the spiritual and ethical foundation upon which all learning, growth, and school life is built. It defines how we treat one another, how we approach challenges, and how we understand our place in the world.

'Loving God and each other, we work together to be the best we can be.'

Our vision is underpinned by these Biblical references:

When asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" and the second to "love your neighbour as yourself". **Mark 12:28-34**

and

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." **Jeremiah 29:11**

Our Values

Love, Belonging, Service and Thankfulness are our chosen four key Christian values (which we also recognise are consistent with people of other faiths and no faith) that enable pupils and staff to live out our vision.

We aim to be a beacon of learning and love, empowering every child to discover their unique potential, flourish with confidence, and become a responsible, resilient member of the community. Inspired by our faith, we nurture curiosity and a lifelong love of learning, working together in partnership with God to ensure that every pupil has the best opportunities available to them and the experiences to be the best that they can be.

Religious Education (RE) Intent, Implementation, and Impact

Intent (What we want to achieve)

We aim to prepare children for citizenship in today's diverse society by equipping them with the spiritual knowledge, moral character, and ability to make informed choices necessary to lead a purposeful life and engage thoughtfully with the world around

them. Through an RE curriculum rooted in Christianity, pupils have opportunities to consider challenging questions about meaning and purpose, truth and values, identity and belonging.

Implementation (How we teach it)

We use the Blackburn Diocese 'Questful RE' syllabus choosing and adapt units (where necessary) to meet the needs of our unique school family. Each unit has a clear link to 'God's Big Story' incorporating the Christian concepts of Creation, The Fall, People of God, Incarnation, Gospels, Salvation and the Kingdom of God. All units are based around a 'Big Question' with the opportunity for pupils to develop their substantive and disciplinary knowledge through exploring theological, philosophical and human/social science questions. Our teaching employs a wide range of approaches and resources such as text study, art, music, and videos; it also encourages pupils to develop a variety of skills such as reflection, empathy, analysis and evaluation. Our RE curriculum allows children to develop Christian values as well as the fundamental **British values** of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These are actively promoted and interwoven through our lessons.

Impact (What our children will be like)

As a result of our RE curriculum, children will:

- know that they are a child of God, developing a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious
- understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage
- reflect both theologically and philosophically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society (regardless of background or faith)
- know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights
- develop tolerance and respect for others
- contribute to the development of their own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values

- be religiously literate (appropriate to age) and hold an informed conversation about religious beliefs and practices
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition

Inclusion

We believe in an inclusive, broad and balanced education for all children, regardless of ability, background or individual needs so that all can flourish and grow.

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 we encourage the development of diversity dexterity ensuring pupils develop the skills of self awareness, respect for all, open mindedness and appreciation and wonder. This ensures ethnic, cultural and economic diversity, fostering positive attitudes toward all people.

Assessment

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. Assessment is both summative and formative. The class teacher will assess the pupils through observations, questioning, discussions, peer and self-assessments and written exercises. At the end of each 'quest' the children will be given the opportunity to answer the main topic question. This gives the children the opportunity to use all they have learnt throughout the topic to answer the question and showcase their new knowledge and skills. The children will be marked on their religious literacy, their understanding of the topic and the different pieces of evidence they use in order to answer the question. Teachers use the school's record keeping system to record children's progress and achievement.

Collective Worship

Although Religious Education and Collective Worship naturally complement and enrich one another they are managed separately. (Please see Collective Worship Policy)

Parental Rights of Withdrawal

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church 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 or Methodist Church 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 such a request is made, the Headteacher will explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation.