

St. Anne's Catholic Primary School Religious Education –

Intent | Implementation | Impact statement

"Lighting the Path to Christ – Growing in Faith, Respect and Love"

At St. Anne's RC Primary School, Religious Education (RE) is the core of our curriculum and the heart of our identity as a Catholic school. It is more than a subject; it is the foundation of our school ethos, community and vision. Everything we do is inspired by the Gospel message and rooted in the teachings of the Church.

As a Catholic school serving a diverse, multi-faith community, we celebrate the richness of different beliefs while holding firm to our distinctive Catholic identity. We believe that faith and reason go hand-in-hand, and that RE should encourage pupils to ask big questions, explore life's meaning and deepen their spiritual, moral and social understanding.

We are currently embedding the new RE curriculum scheme, Lighting the Path. This programme, in line with the Religious Education Curriculum Directory (2023) and supported by Oxford University Press (OUP) resources, is helping us to build a rigorous, theological and reflective curriculum which forms children in faith, fosters curiosity and promotes religious literacy.

Our Mission Statements guides us in all we do:

**Together we grow in faith, knowledge and love.
Together we show respect, kindness and confidence.
Together our community shines.**

INTENT – Why do we teach Religious Education?

At St. Anne's, our RE curriculum is designed to:

- Place Jesus Christ at the centre of all learning, helping our children grow in faith and love.
- Enable our children to know, understand and explore the teachings of the Catholic Church through Scripture, doctrine, liturgy and Christian living.
- Develop our children as religiously literate and theologically engaged young people who can think spiritually, ethically and critically.
- Form pupils who are able to make informed moral decisions and take responsibility for their actions, inspired by the life and teachings of Christ.
- Provide a curriculum that is inclusive and respectful of all faiths, supporting children from Catholic homes, other Christian traditions, other world religions and those of no faith background.
- Prepare our children for life in a multi-faith society, enabling them to build respectful relationships based on mutual understanding and love.
- Support the spiritual, moral, vocational and cultural development of each child, helping them flourish as individuals created in the image and likeness of God.
- Encourage our children to show respect and kindness to all, reflecting our mission to grow together in confidence and community.

Knowing You More Clearly – Deepening Our Relationship with God

At St. Anne's, helping our children to come to know God more clearly, more personally and more deeply is at the very heart of our Religious Education and everything we do as a Catholic school.

As we begin to roll out Lighting the Path, one of the key threads running through the curriculum is the theme of "Knowing You." This isn't just about knowing about God, but truly coming to know Him — as a loving Father, as our Creator, and as a constant presence in our lives.

Through this part of the curriculum, our children are supported in discovering that God knows each of them by name and calls them into a relationship with Him. They learn that God is not distant or abstract, but close, loving and involved in every part of their lives — in their hopes, their worries, their questions and their joys.

"Knowing You" gives space in the curriculum for our children to explore prayer in a meaningful way, reflect quietly, engage with Scripture, and see how Jesus' life and message speaks to them today. It helps our children recognise that their faith is not just something they learn, but something they live — and someone they walk with.

At St. Anne's, we want each of our children to know that they are loved by God, and that they can grow in faith in a way that is real, honest and personal. As they come to know God more clearly, they also come to understand more about themselves — who they are, what they are called to do, and how they can live out their faith in our school, our community, and the wider world.

In living out our mission, **together we grow in faith, knowledge and love** as each child is formed in their unique journey with God.

IMPLEMENTATION – How is RE delivered at St. Anne's?

We are currently in the process of rolling out the RE programme Lighting the Path across all year groups. This structured curriculum ensures comprehensive and progressive coverage from EYFS to Year 6.

It is supported by Oxford University Press (OUP) resources, designed to deepen pupils' theological understanding and ensure high-quality teaching and learning.

Key features of our RE curriculum:

- 10% of curriculum time is dedicated exclusively to RE – this is non-negotiable and consistent across all year groups.
- Each class follows the Lighting the Path long- and medium-term planning, which incorporates key theological concepts, the liturgical year, and the sacramental life of the Church.
- Teachers plan using a wide range of methods and resources: storytelling, sacred art, music, role play, discussion, silent reflection, scripture study, and creative expression.
- Lessons are enriched with sacred Scripture, Church teaching, and links to pupils' own lives and experiences.
- Our curriculum includes the study of other world religions, taught with respect and sensitivity in the context of Catholic understanding. These include Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism.

- RE is connected to school life through collective worship, liturgies, Masses, feast day celebrations, and cross-curricular links, particularly with PSHE, history, geography, English and art.
- RE is enhanced through experiential learning: visits to places of worship (e.g. our parish church, a mosque or synagogue), engagement with Catholic charities like CAFOD, and reflection days linked to the liturgical seasons.
- Pupils are regularly encouraged to explore and respond to big questions of meaning, purpose and truth.
- Prayer and liturgy are central, including daily class prayer, weekly worship, pupil-led liturgies, and seasonal celebrations such as Advent, Lent and Pentecost.
- Children are prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist in partnership with our parish.
- Our children are encouraged to show kindness and confidence in their learning and in their relationships, living out our mission together.

IMPACT – What difference does RE make?

We measure the impact of our RE curriculum by assessing how well pupils:

- Demonstrate secure knowledge of Catholic teaching, appropriate to their age and stage.
- Are able to talk about their beliefs using accurate religious vocabulary and make links between Scripture, Church teaching and daily life.
- Show they are growing spiritually, morally and socially – becoming more reflective, compassionate, and thoughtful in their words and actions.
- Develop the ability to think critically and theologically about faith, morality and society.
- Participate actively and reverently in worship, liturgy and the sacramental life of the Church.
- Show respect for people of other faiths and engage positively with diverse beliefs and cultures.
- Apply their learning to real-life situations, making informed moral decisions and living out the values of the Gospel.
- Take part in charitable work and service, inspired by Catholic teaching on the dignity of the human person and care for creation.
- Leave St. Anne's with a deepened understanding of their own faith, a capacity for dialogue, and a strong sense of identity as young people of hope and purpose.
- Demonstrate respect, kindness and confidence in their interactions, shining as part of our community.

Final Reflection

At St. Anne's, Religious Education is not confined to a subject box – it is a way of life. As we roll out Lighting the Path, we remain committed to delivering a curriculum that inspires, challenges and forms, helping our children to grow as disciples of Christ who are confident, compassionate and committed to making a difference in their world.

Together we grow in faith, knowledge and love. Together we show respect, kindness and confidence. Together our community shines.

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

