

## **St Ann's C of E Primary School**

### **Religious Education Policy**

#### **Mission Statement**

The aim of St Ann's C of E Primary School is to provide a Christian context for learning that is caring, stable and academically challenging. It is our wish that the whole school community develop a love of learning.

We will strive to provide all involved with the necessary skills and opportunities, to take an active role in learning, in order to achieve their full potential.

The school and wider community will work together to show mutual respect and care for the environment.

#### **Introduction**

As a voluntary aided school the religious education at St Ann's C of E Primary School is required by law to be determined by the foundation governors' school's trust deed. The trust deed states that the religious instruction is in accordance with the doctrines, rites and practices of the Church of England.

As a church school we see our R.E. policy as an important and integral part of our school life. We have adopted the Soihull Metropolitan Borough Council Religious Education scheme as the basis for our R.E. teaching for the following reasons:

1. It is recommended by the London Diocesan Board for Schools.
2. It provides a good balance between the teaching of Christianity and other faiths. (However as a church school the major emphasise of our R.E. is Christian based.)
3. It provides a good basis of information allowing staff to teach all areas with sensitivity and knowledge.
4. The CASE (concepts, attitudes, skills and experience) format provides for continuity and progression and allows staff to focus in on aims and objectives.
5. We believe it gives children the skills, knowledge and experience to make informed choices in their own exploration of life and faith.

#### **Aims**

1. To learn about (explicit) and from (implicit) religion.
2. To teach the Christian faith in a positive way.
3. To encourage others to explore the Christian faith.
4. To explain the meaning of other faiths and to promote respect for them.
5. To encourage the children to recognise and value the faith of others.
6. To give the children the opportunity to experience G-d and his world through worship.
7. To promote spiritual, moral, social, cultural and mental development.
8. To consider questions of the meaning and purpose of life, develop children's sense of identity and belonging and thus preparing them for life as citizens in a plural society.

## **Equal Opportunities**

R.E. will be taught in St Ann's C of E Primary School in a way that promotes the schools equal opportunities policy and as such will:

1. Allow all children to see their cultures and traditions represented in a sensitive way.
2. Ensure the representation of Christianity as a world-wide faith embracing all races.
3. Ensure that when presenting faiths other than our own to the children we will work from a basis of knowledge.
4. Children should have opportunities to meet with members of other faith communities and hear them speak about their faith and traditions.

## **Withdrawal**

Although parents have a legal right to withdraw their child from R.E. by making a written application for a place at St Ann's C of E Primary School they are asked to sign to say that they understand the centrality of Christianity to the school and nature of the school as a place of religious education and collective worship in its daily life.

## **Using the Scheme**

The time allocation for R.E. is:

KS1	40-50 minutes per week	or	36 hours per year*
KS2	45-60 minutes per week	or	45 hours per year*

The Solihull scheme has been amended to form the St Ann's C of E Primary School R.E. curriculum map (see appendix 1).

In KS1 the school has adopted the LDBS Draft Update to the Solihull Scheme of Work for KS1 (see appendix 1).

As Christianity is central to the school in KS2 the Autumn term and the Spring term will be devoted to teaching Christianity (with the exception of odd lessons that coincide with major festivals for other religions studied) whilst the Summer term will concentrate on one other religion specific to that year group (see appendix 1).

## **Continuity and Progression**

The fact that the Solihull scheme has a similar structure at both key stages aids continuity and progression and the KS2 work on Reasoned Argument builds on the children's experiences at KS1.

## **Monitoring and Review**

Planning, assessment and record keeping will be in line with the school's policies for these areas. Each lesson will have an implicit and/or an explicit learning objective. Assessment packs for R.E. will be based on the Solihull schemes own assessment packs which will be tailored to fit each module and the needs of the school. (See appendix 2.)

Parents will be informed of their child's progress verbally during parent meetings and with summaries in the end of year report.

### **Assemblies**

See St Ann's C of E Primary School policy for Collective Worship.

### **Church Involvement**

1. Members of the church to visit.
2. Take assemblies as appropriate.
3. Attend Christian festivals.
4. All classes to attend church for praise assemblies.
5. All classes to visit church (see next section).

### **Visits/Visitors**

See St Ann's C of E Primary School EVAC policy.

Every class to visit St Ann's C of E Church on a pre-arranged visit at least once a year.

Each KS2 class to visit another place of worship, appropriate to the religion being studied, each year.

### **Appendices**

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| Appendix 1 | KS1 & KS2 R.E. Curriculum Map for St Ann's C of E Primary School   |
| Appendix 2 | KS1 & KS2 R.E. Assessment Packs for St Ann's C of E Primary School |