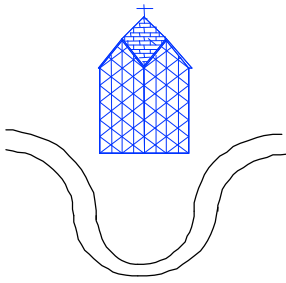


ST PAUL with ST LUKE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
Leopold Street, Bow, London E3 4LA

Policy version Control

RE Policy

Version no	Amendments	Approval date
1	No changes	14/7/14 N.Hiscock
2	Added Entitlement as an appendix for clarification. Made a few small changes to explain how the school supports staff training and organises internal and external monitoring activities.	4/10/17



ST PAUL with ST LUKE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Introduction:

Religious Education in a Voluntary Aided Church of England School has a unique position in the curriculum. It is a means for helping children explore the spiritual dimensions of life and to lay the foundations for understanding of the Christian Faith. It is an integral part of school life and is developed throughout the curriculum. It is generic to the ethos of the school.

We maintain strong links with St Paul's Church Bow Common and the local community. We welcome the contribution that visitors who lead Collective Worship make towards enriching religious education in our school.

The challenges that children will meet growing up in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society will be addressed through planned units of work. These are organised in accordance with Diocesan recommendations and will enable children to develop their knowledge, understanding and respect for the traditions and culture of the other major world faiths.

The teaching of Religious Education in a Primary School must take into account the age and understanding of the child and whenever possible be closely related to their first hand experiences. To that end, we particularly welcome and encourage both visits to different religious buildings and visitors from different faiths into the classroom.

We follow the Statement of Entitlement produced by the Church of England Education Office (appendix 1).

The main strands to be followed are:

1. Christian Teaching:

Teaching directly related to Christianity. e.g. The Life of Jesus; Bible Study; the Church and other places of worship; Christian Celebrations etc.

2. Christian Community:

Christian living; Caring and helping others; Relationships: in school/with Church/Home and Community, Caring and responsibility for the environment , Community action projects.

3. Thematic:

Cross-curricula approaches developing an understanding that R.E. is not an isolated subject but is related to other areas of the curriculum.

4. Prayer and Worship

Worship music is often used in RE lessons to create the atmosphere of awe and wonder that is a key part of RE lessons enabling pupils to share in a sense of wonder, thankfulness and praise for the world and everything in it.

Prayer is often used in RE lessons as a plenary to encourage pupils to apply learning from the lesson to everyday life. Children compose their own prayers; offer spontaneous prayer or learn Anglican prayers such as The Lord's Prayer.

5. Other Faiths:

Awareness and respect for the different faiths is covered through certain units of work designated for this purpose. Visits to other faith venues and visitors from such places take place in accordance with expectations from the Londoan Diocesan Syllabus.

Policy Themes:

The Diocesan Board of Education in its publication 'Guidelines for Religious Education', identified ten themes of Religious Education which schools should include in their schemes of work:

1. Worship and Prayer.
2. The Bible.
3. The Life of Jesus.
4. Celebrations in the Christian Year.
5. Exploring the Church.
6. The other five major faiths.
7. The Creative Arts and Religious Education.
8. Bible and traditional stories
9. Symbols and Sacraments.
10. Understanding what it means to be a Christian.

All these areas of experience form the basis of the religious education we provide in our school.

Teaching, Assessment and Monitoring

A weekly lesson is planned to enable children to learn about religion (AT1) and to learn from religion (AT2). We use the 'I Can Statements' to ensure that teachers plan lessons at the right pitch including challenge for the higher achievers and scaffolding for the lower achievers. The 'I Can Statements' are used to assess children's attainment and progress each term.

Children's work is marked after every lesson with next steps or a question given (differentiated for the different abilities in the class). Time at the beginning of the next lesson is always set aside for children to respond.

The quality of children's work and the presentation of their work in RE is expected to be of a high standard on a par with expectations in literacy. Class teachers teach RE (not supply teachers).

The school uses the LDBS scheme which is written so that each topic is based on a question for example, *What do we know about Jesus?* or *Why are we having a Jewish party?* Lessons are interactive and engaging, including a variety of ways to interest children in the topic:

- Stories
- Questions
- Books, artefacts, photographs, DVDs, PPTs
- Visits to special places of worship
- Visiting speakers

- Drama/role play
- Music
- Art & DT
- Games
- Research using the internet

Teachers are supported to improve their teaching through a termly RE staff meeting, in which good practice, successful educational visits, children's books, teachers reflections on what is working well in the RE scheme is shared and celebrated. The RE Co-ordinator/Champion attends termly training sessions at the LDBS, thus keeping up with the latest information and bringing new ideas back to school to share. The RE Co and Headteacher conduct termly RE book scrutinies and give feedback to staff.

In alternate years the school requests a SIAMS Review led by an adviser from the LDBS which includes a learning walk to see teaching and learning in RE, a book scrutiny and an interview with pupils, (the most recent review was June 2017). This enables us to identify areas of strength and areas to improve. Governors are invited to attend. A SIAMS working party consisting of governors and staff meet termly to address actions from the last SIAMS (Feb 2016).

Aims for Religious Education:

1. To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and intellectual development of pupils in our school and prepare them for the experiences and responsibilities of adult life.
2. To develop an understanding and knowledge of the Bible and Christian beliefs in a way that relates directly to their lives.
3. To introduce pupils to an experience of God's Spirit, and able to reflect upon, listen and pray to God.
4. To develop a respect and understanding of other religions, cultures and traditions.
5. To develop an understanding and experience of God through praise and worship.
6. To develop knowledge of the Parish Church and other local Christian churches both as a building and a community of people who share the same faith.
7. To encourage children to reflect about their own beliefs and values with a positive interest in others with different beliefs and a confidence to challenge and be challenged through informed discussion.
8. To develop caring attitudes to members of the school community and to the wider community and act upon those attitudes through involvement in community projects that make a positive difference to others.
9. To develop a sense of responsibility towards the environment. With a strong sense of excellence and high standards of care and pro-active concern for others and their property.
10. To provide religious education for all pupils in accordance with the school Trust Deed and with the provisions of The Education Reform Acts.

