



Religious Education Policy

Religious Education at All Saints C of E Primary School and Nursery

At **All Saints C of E Primary School and Nursery**, Religious Education (RE) is central to our vision of enabling every child to “*Let Your Light Shine*” (Matthew 5:16). We believe that RE plays a fundamental role in the holistic development of our children. It helps them grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding, equipping them to live with hope, integrity and respect in a diverse world.

Through RE, pupils are encouraged to shine their light by:

- **Showing Courage** – asking big questions, exploring challenging ideas, and thinking deeply about faith and belief.
- **Building Community** – learning how religions and worldviews shape the way people live and work together.
- **Living with Compassion** – developing empathy, kindness, and respect for people of all faiths and none.
- **Nurturing Curiosity** – investigating, exploring, and engaging with the richness of Christian faith and the diversity of world religions and worldviews.

Our RE curriculum, based on the **Surrey Agreed Syllabus**, ensures that pupils learn about Christianity as a living and dynamic faith, while also gaining a thoughtful understanding of the major world religions and secular worldviews. In doing so, we support children to reflect on their own experiences, values, and beliefs, preparing them to be confident, compassionate, and respectful members of society.

1. Introduction

All Saints C of E Primary School and Nursery is a Church of England primary school, we value the importance of developing pupils’ understanding of Christianity as a living faith, alongside providing opportunities to learn from and about other principal world religions and worldviews.

Our school vision is rooted in **Matthew 5:16**:

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

This policy has been written with reference to:

- The **Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE** and its accompanying scheme of work.

- The **Church of England Statement of Entitlement for RE (2019)**.
- The school's Christian vision and values of **courage, community, compassion, and curiosity**.

2. Aims of RE

Through RE at All Saints C of E Primary School and Nursery, we aim to:

- Enable pupils to encounter Christianity and other world faiths in a thoughtful, respectful, and engaging way.
- Support children in developing spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally in line with our vision of *"Let Your Light Shine."*
- Encourage pupils to ask questions about meaning, purpose, and belief, showing **curiosity** and **courage** in their learning.
- Develop understanding of how religion and belief influences people's lives, communities and cultures, promoting **community** and shared values.
- Foster **compassion** and respect for all, including those of different faiths and none.
- Equip pupils with knowledge and skills to engage in dialogue, reflect on their own ideas, and appreciate diversity.

3. Legal Requirements

- RE is a statutory subject for all registered pupils, including those in the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of RE. Should this be considered, we would ask parents to discuss this with the Headteacher first.
- At All Saints C of E Primary School, R.E. is taught in line with the **Surrey Agreed Syllabus**, with additional support from Church of England guidance and resources.

4. Curriculum and Content

- The **Surrey scheme of work** provides the framework for RE teaching and learning.
- Christianity is given majority coverage, in line with the school's foundation, while other major world religions (such as Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Buddhism) are also explored.
- Opportunities are also provided to consider secular worldviews.
- Lessons include enquiry-based learning, creative approaches, use of story, art, drama, reflection, and visits/visitors.

5. Organisation and Teaching

- RE is delivered as part of the weekly curriculum, with appropriate time allocation in line with Surrey SACRE guidance
- In EYFS, RE is taught through stories, celebrations, and experiences that connect to the Early Learning Goals.
- Teachers use the Surrey scheme to plan progressive, balanced units that build knowledge and skills over time.
- RE is taught by class teachers, with support from clergy, church members, and faith visitors where appropriate.

6. Assessment and Monitoring

- Teachers assess pupils' progress against the key outcomes in the Surrey syllabus.
- Evidence may include written work, creative responses, discussions, and reflections. Teachers will assess RE to evaluate the children's understanding and personal development using the following strategies:
 - Formative Assessment: Ongoing assessment through discussions, projects, and reflections. Teachers provide regular feedback to help children deepen their understanding.
 - Summative Assessment: End-of-unit assessments, including essays, presentations, and tests, to assess knowledge of key religious concepts and their ability to reflect on these critically.
- Books will also be monitored termly by the Senior Leadership team and the RE subject leader.
- Parents will be informed of their children's progress in the annual end of year report.
- The RE subject leader monitors planning, teaching, and outcomes to ensure coverage, quality, and progression.

7. Resources and Enrichment

- A wide range of resources are used, including artefacts, books, digital materials, and Surrey-provided resources.
- Visits to places of worship and visits from faith representatives are encouraged to enrich learning.
- RE is also enriched through whole-school worship, links with the parish church, and celebration of Christian festivals.

8. Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

- All pupils, regardless of background, faith, or ability, have access to high-quality RE.
- RE curriculum is inclusive and respects all our children
- Teaching is differentiated and adapted to meet the needs of all learners.
- Whilst our curriculum meets the expectations of the Church of England 'Statement of Entitlement', we make sure we teach about the diversity of religious beliefs and practices in a respectful and unbiased way.
- Although our school has a strong Christian foundation rooted in theology, we encourage children to explore and learn about other religions, allowing them to form their own beliefs.
- We celebrate various religious festivals and observances, ensuring that children from all faith backgrounds feel represented.

9. Teacher Training and Professional Development

Pupils in Church schools are entitled to be taught by teachers who have a secure subject knowledge and are confident to navigate and challenge cultural and religious stereotypes, prejudice and extremism.

At All Saints C of E Primary School, our teaching staff receive ongoing professional development to stay up to date with the latest resources and methodologies in Religious Education.

We ensure that all RE teachers:

- Have access to planning and resources from the ODBE.
- Have opportunities to liaise and work with the local vicar from All Saint's Church.
- The RE leader can seek advice from the ODBE school advisor who has an appropriate religious background.
- Participate in training led by the RE leader to strengthen their subject knowledge and teaching skills.
- Collaborate with other leaders across the trust to share best practices and discuss pedagogical strategies for teaching RE.

10. Parental and Community Involvement

We encourage engagement with both parents and the local church community within the RE curriculum:

Parental Involvement: We communicate with parents about the RE curriculum and encourage them to engage in their child's spiritual and moral development.

Church and Community Links: We have weekly visits to school from the Reverend at All Saints Church who leads church worship at school and the children also have the opportunity to visit the church throughout the year.

11. Safeguarding and Well-being

We recognise that discussions around faith and ethics can be sensitive and sometimes provoke personal reflection. Our RE policy ensures:

Safe Environment: A supportive environment for children to express their thoughts and feelings about faith, spirituality, and morality.

Safeguarding: All teaching staff adhere to safeguarding policies to ensure that any emotional or spiritual concerns raised by children are addressed appropriately.

12. Policy Review

This RE policy will be reviewed every three years to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of our students. We will seek feedback from children, parents, teachers, and the local church community to inform any updates to the policy.

Conclusion

Religious Education at All Saints CE Primary School is more than a subject; it is a cornerstone of our mission to prepare children for life enabling them to shape communities now and for the future. Guided by compassion, trust, prayer and a spirit of generosity, our children will flourish and shine as beacons of light, making a positive impact on society.