



**St Herbert's RC Primary School**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY**

Approved by Governors on: 20.03.2024

Date to be reviewed: Spring 2027

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body: *P Devine (Chair)*

# **St Herbert's RC Primary School**

## **Religious Education Policy**

This policy is set within the context of the School Mission Statement:

*"Strong in Faith, Hope and Love, for the Common Good"*

and the School Ethos:

*"By loving one another as God loves us, we can achieve spiritually and academically"*

***"I came so that they could have life — indeed, so that they could have life to the fullest."***

***(John 10:10)***

The staff of St Herbert's School work to give each child full access to a broad and balanced curriculum that has Christ at the centre, encouraging, in each individual, a sense of self-worth and self-esteem. Ample opportunities are offered for children to apply and use their knowledge and skills in cross-curricular studies to deepen their understanding of religious truths and think creatively.

Religious Education in a Catholic School plays a central and vital part. It is not considered as simply one subject among many, but the foundation of the entire educational process.

Our school aims to meet the individual and changing needs of pupils through providing a variety of learning opportunities which reflect their developing capacity for learning, from the Early Years Foundation Stage to the end of Key Stage 2.

### **Aims of Religious Education**

- ☐ To ensure that Religious Education is at the heart of the school.
- ☐ To enable pupils to realise that Christ is at the centre of all we do and relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other areas of the curriculum and their everyday life.
- ☐ To reflect the values enshrined in our School's Mission Statement, Ethos and Promises.
- ☐ To ensure that our school community understands our role as missionaries of the faith.
- ☐ To continually deepen the pupils' relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ☐ To present an engaging and comprehensive curriculum which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Church.
- ☐ To enable pupils to continually deepen their religious and theological knowledge and understanding and be able to communicate this effectively.
- ☐ To present an authentic vision of the Church's spiritual, moral, social and cultural teaching so that pupils are equipped to make educated choices and respond freely to the challenges of Christian life in our contemporary society.
- ☐ To ensure that the pupils become religiously literate and develop knowledge, understanding and skills, appropriate to their age and ability to reflect spiritually, think ethically and be aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.
- ☐ To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to understand and respect them.
- ☐ With emphasis on Roman Catholic beliefs and practices, to know the significance of Christianity and other world religions in the contemporary world, in the surrounding, wider and local communities, and within the parish.
- ☐ To engage with the deepest questions of life and encourage investigation and reflection.

- ☐ To provide opportunities for pupils to apply and use their understanding of religious truths and think creatively.
- ☐ To ensure that pupils are able to prepare for, participate in and value liturgical Prayer and Worship.
- ☐ To support the Spiritual development of children of other faiths.
- ☐ To offer a sense of worth and justice through their experience of belonging to a caring community.
- ☐ To develop appropriate skills, good attitudes and instill a love for learning.

### **Home, School, Parish links**

We recognise the importance of parents and carers as the child's first teacher and their role in faith development. Parents and staff do everything possible to establish a close partnership, in order to develop and nurture the Catholic faith of our children and there are many opportunities for parents to engage in school life.

Parents, Carers and Parishioners are invited to:

- ☐ Join the staff and children for Holy Mass, in St Herbert's Church, to celebrate the beginning and end of each school year, Holy days of Obligation and other significant days in the Church's Liturgical calendar.
- ☐ Attend weekly Mass with the Parish and take part in the Children's Liturgy.
- ☐ Attend year group assemblies and Nativity productions.
- ☐ Participate in the children's Sacramental Programme Journey.
- ☐ Contribute to their child's digital school profile, by means of photographs, anecdotes, homework etc. These digital profiles illustrate the child's faith in action.
- ☐ Attend Class Masses and Celebrations.
- ☐ To be Faith Friends to support our children's Sacramental Journey.

Parents and Carers are given opportunities to be involved in many charity activities during the year for school or for the wider community.

Our Friends of St Herbert's Association give generously of their time and raise sums of money for the good of the children in our school.

### **Religious Education Curriculum**

The school provides the minimum of 10% of curriculum time for Religious Education as required by the Bishops of England and Wales.

To fulfill our aims we use the 'Come and See' Programme of Religious Education, which integrates and meets the requirements of the Religious Education Directory. It is developed through three themes which are gradually explored each time at greater depths: Church, Sacrament and Christian Living. The process for delivering the topics in 'Come and See' has three stages: 'Explore', 'Reveal' and 'Respond', which draw together children's life experiences, knowledge and understanding of faith and links to daily life.

### **Marking**

Work is marked in accordance with the school feedback policy (see policy). We believe feedback is at its most effective when given at the point of learning. Feedback during RE lessons may cover basic skills, errors and misconceptions. However, feedback will also relate to RE content and look to challenge and promote deeper thinking.

## **The role of the RE Leader**

- ☐ To formulate a policy and scheme of work and ensure that this is followed by all teachers.
- ☐ To advise and support staff in planning and keep them informed about new developments through INSET.
- ☐ To keep up to date with current issues through INSET opportunities.
- ☐ To monitor the teaching and learning of RE, with the Headteacher, by carrying out lesson observations, learning walks, pupil voice activities and scrutiny of books.
- ☐ To monitor and maintain resources.
- ☐ To liaise with governors.

## **Assessment**

The achievement of pupils is assessed at the end of every term using formal assessment activities, pieces of work covered throughout the term and teacher observations. The levels are recorded by teachers and monitored by the RE Leader and the Assessment Leader.

RE is reported formally to parents in the annual reports.

## **Data Protection Statement**

The procedures and practice created by this policy have been reviewed in the light of our Data Protection Policy.

All data will be handled in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy.

Data Audit For This Policy					
What?	Probable Content	Why?	Who?	Where?	When?
Assessment Data	Name of child Assessment data	To monitor progress and plan for improvement.	Teaching Staff	Held digitally on Google teamdrives.	Held on digital file throughout the child's time at the school.  Passed onto new school when moving.

As such, our assessment is that this policy:

Has few/No data compliance requirements	Has a moderate level of data compliance requirements	Has a high level of data compliance requirements
✓		