



## Introduction

Religious education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live well together.

Such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person.

Religious Education at All Saints Church of England Primary School aims to provide all children with the stimulus to be open hearted and broadminded. These attitudes are for life, not just for school, and they should equip our children to live in our multicultural city.

Religious Education is part of the basic curriculum but not part of the National Curriculum because it is taught in accordance with a locally agreed syllabus (in our case the One Leicester Harmony and Diversity Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity). However, it has the same status and importance as any other subject.

Since All Saints is a church school Religious Education holds a special place in our school life and adds to the general ethos of the school. R.E. is not an isolated area of the curriculum but must be seen in the context of the whole curriculum.

At All Saints Church of England Primary School, we explore the religions of Hinduism, Islam and Sikhism in addition to Christianity. The Christian ethos of the school forms the starting point for all teaching and learning and Religious Education forms an important part of this overall ethos. It provides a means for children to develop an understanding of their own and others' beliefs so they come to value themselves and to respect others.

We encourage the children to follow Christ's teaching to love and to serve one another so they can take their place in a multicultural, multiracial society.

## Aims

The aim of our religious education teaching is to provide opportunities for children to:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.

- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking.

### Inclusion

Please refer to the Teaching & Learning Policy and Single Equality Policy.

### Curriculum entitlement: provision, profile and priority

At All Saints, pupils and their families can expect an RE curriculum that enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice, this should include the ways in which it is unique and diverse. Parents can expect the use of high-quality resources, for example, the Understanding Christianity resource. Pupils can expect that teaching and learning in Church schools will use an approach that engages with biblical text and theological ideas.

Pupils can expect that All Saints' RE curriculum will engage and challenge them through an exploration of core concepts and questions. They can expect meaningful and informed dialogue with a range of religions and worldviews. There should be opportunities for them to understand the role of foundational texts, beliefs, rituals, and practices and how they help form identity in a range of religions and worldviews. Pupils should explore how these may change in different times, places and cultures. RE will go beyond a sociological study of religious phenomena and will introduce pupils to a range of relevant disciplines including theology, philosophy and the human and social sciences. At All Saints progress in RE should be significant and attainment high enabling pupils to develop confident religious literacy.

Parents and pupils can expect RE to have a high profile within the curriculum and will be a priority for senior leaders. The RE curriculum is intrinsic to the outworking of our school's Christian vision in enabling all pupils to flourish. In addition, the RE curriculum will contribute to British values and spiritual moral social and cultural development.

Learning activities must provide fully for the needs of all pupils. Pupils should develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection. Pupils should have a safe space to explore their own religious, spiritual and/or philosophical ways of seeing, living and thinking, believing and belonging. They should have opportunities to engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of all religions and worldviews.

### Curriculum Statement: Challenging, accurate and diverse

Religious education must be considered an academic subject. All pupils are entitled to religious education that is delivered in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner. Pupils are entitled to a balanced RE curriculum which enquires into religions and worldviews through theology, philosophy and the human and the social sciences. It should be a coherent curriculum that enables progress through ordered and sequential learning developing both knowledge and skills. There should be a clear

curriculum vision and intent, a structure for implementation and provision and a process for evaluating impact.

### Curriculum balance and time: sufficient, appropriate and balanced

Parents and pupils are entitled to expect that Christianity should be the majority religion studied in each year group and should be at least 50% of curriculum time. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, however organised, should be committed to the delivery of RE.

Key points of the syllabus: Christianity is to be studied at each key stage. Children will learn about some of the major faiths represented in the communities of Leicester.

Non-religious life stances are taught where appropriate at each Key Stage. Festivals linked to other major religions will be recognised as a link to the classes termly themes, eg. Learn about Diwali when undertaking a topic of Light.

Curriculum time for RE will either be used weekly or on an accumulated basis dependent on age group, particular topic or on off factors.

Religious Education may be taught as a discrete subject or as part of other curriculum areas such as PSHE.

In the Foundation Stage, RE is integrated into programmes from the EYFS framework (PSE and Understanding the World) KS1: 36 hours and KS2: 45 hours of tuition.

### Withdrawal from RE

It is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. This is clearly stated in the school prospectus. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child then arrangements should be made in consultation with the Head teacher and the chair of governors.

April 2021  
Review April 2024