

St Austin's Catholic Primary School



RE Policy

Autumn (1) 2022

Policy agreed by the Full Governing Body of St Austin's Primary School:

On:18th October 2022..... Signed:..... *A Kay Davis*
(Chair of Governors)

To be reviewed:.....Autumn (1) 2024.....

"In our school, where everyone is special,
we will love and serve as Jesus taught"

"En nuestro colegio todos somos especiales.
Amaremos y serviremos como Jesús nos enseñó"

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SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The following policy has been agreed by the staff, governors, parents and parish of St. Austin's Catholic Primary School, over a period of time, through discussions, meetings and seeking opinions.

PRINCIPLES

The following are the principles we want to underpin all Religious Education in our school.

1. To develop a respect and understanding of fellow human beings.
2. To realise that everyone is made in God's image.
3. To develop a positive attitude towards others.
4. To acknowledge each other's talents and gifts.
5. To respect freedom and peace.
6. To respect home/life experiences.
7. To respect other faiths.
8. To help each child form a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith.
9. To acknowledge our children's level of understanding and maturity.
10. To be fully Inclusive of children, families, staff who are not Catholic.

St. Austin's Catholic Primary School will work with:

Pupils and parents
School Governors
The Parish of St. Wilrid's and its parishioners
The Archdiocese of Liverpool
The local and the wider community
Local Education Authority

LEARNING INTENTIONS

The Learning Intentions of Curriculum Religious Education in St Austin's Catholic Primary School:

- i) To understand the search of meaning and endeavour to make scripture relevant to today's society.
- ii) To promote knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition of Christianity.
- iii) To deepen attitudes of awe, wonder, reverence, respect and compassion.
- iv) To ensure experience of prayer, celebration, reflection, empathy, discernment and evaluation.
- v) To familiarise the children with the technical terms of religious belief, practices, activities, stories, symbols and rituals.
- vi) To support all staff in their own journey of faith and in the delivery of Religious Education.

The fundamental skills, knowledge and concepts of Religious Education are set out in 'Come and See', a Religious Education Programme for Primary Schools. It follows a process:

- Explore
- Reveal
- Respond

This process enables the teachers to help the children by:

- 1) Looking at and focusing on a life experience.
- 2) Exploring this aspect of life experience.
- 3) Leading children to deeper understanding of life experiences.
- 4) Presenting the Christian understanding of this process.
- 5) Celebrating through worship.
- 6) Holding on to what they have understood.
- 7) Reflecting on life experience.



TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

- Religious Education is organised on a subject basis outside the main topic framework of the curriculum. We follow a whole school approach to Religious Education as outlined in 'Come and See'. Each year concentrating only on the area of focus identified. At times the school topic and R.E. topics form natural links, and we make sure we take advantage of these, to use opportunities for 'Excellence and Enjoyment'.
- An allocation of 10% of the class timetable per week is given to the teaching of Religious Education. This is achieved in various ways depending upon the age of the children.
- The predominant mode of working in Religious Education is in group work, although individual work is used when appropriate. Class work is in the main used to introduce and conclude a topic. The lessons enable the children and teachers to explore in detail their appropriate area of focus, via discussions, practical activities, use of resources and questioning in various forms. The children all have books in which they put some of their Religious Education work.
- All teachers teach Religious Education in the school.
- Parental involvement is encouraged throughout the school, throughout the curriculum.
- The 'Come and See' scheme provides the framework, which is supported by a variety of activities in school.
- Achievement and individual development are celebrated via:
 - Displays
 - Acknowledgement
 - End of topic Celebrations
 - Assemblies

STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING PROGRESS AND CONTINUITY

Planning Religious Education is a process in which all teachers are involved.

The RE subject leader produces a planner which introduces the new topic, outlines areas of focus, provides content ideas, resources and information.

Work plans are drawn up collaboratively by year groups. Come and See topics are annotated to include aims, content, differentiated activities, resources etc. These are monitored by the Headteacher, SLT and R.E. subject leader.

FEEDBACK TO PUPILS

Feedback to pupils about their own progress in Religious Education is achieved through:

- Effective marking
- Verbal acknowledgement – praise
- Discussion – individual
- Pupils own recognition shared with teacher
- Celebration
- Scrutinising work together
- Pupil interviews and pupil voice
- Monitoring work/books

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is used to guide the progress of individual pupils in Religious Education. It involves identifying what the child has learnt and the next stage to follow. Assessment is mostly carried out by teachers in the course of their teaching. Via:

- Group discussions
- Individual discussions
- Specific Assessment tasks
- Using levels of Attainment as measures and recording
- Utilising the Driver words
- Formal Assessment guidance from the Archdiocese

PARENTAL/CARER AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 1) The school website has information about the R.E. topics with hints to parents of how they can help.
- 2) Parents receive a termly newsletter.
- 3) Parents are very active within the school
- 4) Parents are invited to termly class masses.
- 5) Moments that Matter meeting with new parents and Passing on the Faith booklets.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP/PRAYER AND LITURGY – see separate policy

ST. AUSTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
LITURGICAL PLAN

Time	Theme	Organisation
September	Welcome back to school	Assembly
1 st November	All Saints	
December	Year 6 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
December	Year 5 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
December	Year 4 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
December	Year 3 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
December	The start of Advent	Assembly
January	Epiphany	
January	Year 6 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
January	Year 5 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
January	Year 4 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
January	Year 3 Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
February ashes	Ash Wednesday	Assembly – Fr and Deacon Paul distribute
1 st March	St David's Day	
17 th March	St Patrick's Day	
March/April	Leading to Easter	Assembly
7 th June	Corpus Christi	
29 th June	St. Peter and Paul	Sacramental celebration (Deacon Paul/Woolton Cinema/party) *
July	Leavers Mass	Year 6
Throughout	End of Topic Celebrations	
Throughout	Opportunities to visit the church	

Depending upon when date falls some days are celebrated at mass during the weekend.

*Year 4 children prepare for the sacraments through the "With You Always" programme led by St. Wilfrid's Parish and supported by our school.