

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL



R.E. Policy

Updated: October 2021

Review: October 2022

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

At Holy Family we **love** Jesus and each other, **live** life to the full and **learn** with joy and spirit.

The overall aims of Religious Education at Holy Family are:

The comprehensive and systematic study of:

- the mystery of God;
- the life and teachings of Jesus Christ
- the teachings of the church
- the central beliefs that Catholics hold and the basis for them
- the relationship between faith and life

These are explored in a manner, which encourages investigation, and reflection by the pupils, develops the appropriate skills and attitudes and promotes free, informed and full response to God's call in everyday life.

In the words of the Curriculum Directory, 2012:

"The outcome of Catholic Religious Education 'is religiously literate young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills - appropriate to their age and capacity - to think spiritually, ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life."

Intent

At Holy Family, through Religious Education, we aim to

- To live and love as a Christian family, inspired by the values of Jesus.
- To nurture every aspect of the individual encouraging them to aspire, flourish and learn
- To encourage a strong partnership between home school and the wider community

Implementation

To fulfil our aims and objectives we use the 'Come and See' Programme of Religious Education Recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

The programme explores the religious dimensions of questions about life, dignity and purpose within the Catholic tradition. Links are made with the children's own experience and with universal experience. It will raise questions and provide material for reflection by the children on their own experiences. It will enable them to explore the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition and where appropriate other faith traditions.

Overview of the programme

Come and See 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'.

The Process

Each unit in the Come and See Programme is linked by an overall theme and each teaching sequence has three parts;

EXPLORE

The teacher helps the children to begin to look at and focus on the experience within their own lives – concerning themselves, their relationships and their world. In this way the children are led to a deeper understanding, clearer vision and the discovery of significance and value of the experiential events of everyday life.

This will involve exploring experiences through a range of activities, the questions raised are investigated, shared and discussed. The children are able to reflect on the significance of these experiences.

EXPLORE will take one week of Religious Education time to complete.

REVEAL:

Reveal is the heart of the process.

The teacher and the children together discover the Christian understanding of the mystery of the Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They explore the mystery of human life as revealed in the person, life and gospel of Jesus Christ Christians. It will involve learning about Scripture, the teaching of the Church, prayers, rites, psalms, hymns and other expressions of Christian faith and the lives of outstanding Christians.

REVEAL will take two weeks of Religious Education time to complete.

RESPOND:

This is the final stage of the process and is split into two parts.

Remember is the first part of this section. The children will respond by remembering and celebrating all that they have learnt. This new understanding will enable them to make a personal response in their daily lives. This part begins by reflecting on what the children wonder about. This is followed by providing the opportunity for the children to remember what they have understood and learnt.

Rejoice is the second part of the section. There will be the opportunity to plan and take part in a celebration. It will be essential to involve the children in the choice of material to be used in the celebration. The children think about how they can apply their learning in their own daily lives.

RESPOND will take one week of Religious Education time to complete.

Other Faiths

Each year, two weeks are spent studying other faiths; Judaism and Islam. Once in KS1 and repeated in KS2 to secure their understanding. Children will be taught about religious beliefs, practices and festivals

Time Allocation

Time allocation curriculum The Bishops' require 10% of the teaching time for religious education. This usually means 2 hours 10 minutes at Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 and 2 hours 30 minutes at Key Stage 2. This needs to be clearly indicated on the class timetable. This time does not include collective worship (other than the Rejoice section) This time allocation needs to be distributed appropriately across the timetable to ensure quality time is given for effective teaching and learning throughout the week.

Planning:

Long term planning:

This is the framework showing the topics and themes across all year groups over the year.

Medium term planning:

Medium Term Planning is the responsibility of the RE Co-ordinator.

The medium term plan details:

- the content and focus of each theme
- links to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Religious Education Curriculum

- Directory
- Key concepts, skills and attitudes
 - Attainment targets
 - Christian doctrine for the term
 - The three themes and topics
 - The start dates for each topic. (Each topic should be given equal time – each topic will take four weeks to complete)

The planner shows the allocated length of time required to ensure that the three learning outcomes for each topic will be achieved.

Short term planning:

This is the responsibility of the class teacher. All material for planning can be found within the topic pages from the Come and See programme.

Assessment:

Assessment is an integral aspect of all teaching and learning at Holy Family. In the Come and See programme, assessment emphasises a wide range of achievement and is related to the concepts, skills and attitudes that are to be developed through learning about and from religion. Staff use assessment to establish what children know and understand, as well as using it to inform planning. It does not, however, assess spirituality or the practice of faith.

In order to ensure pupil progress, regular assessment, individual pupil tracking and record keeping should be carried out throughout and at the end of each topic.

At Holy Family we assess children in different ways:

- Assessment for learning: continuous
- Marking: daily/weekly (See Marking Policy)
- End of topic teacher assessments

We are continually assessing and reviewing pupils' overall progress and attainment by drawing upon class assessments and class records of attainment against key religious standards. Accurate information is then reported to parents and the child's next teacher.

Inclusion/SEND

At Holy Family the curriculum is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school. If a child is identified as having a special need we do all we can to meet these individual needs in accordance with current school policy which follows the guidance contained in the SEN Code of Practice.

What is good provision for a child with SEN is good for all children i.e. an abundance of activities that allow children to learn visually, through speaking and through listening. For every child to be able to participate we must know each of them as individuals.

Monitoring and review

We are aware of the need to monitor the school's Religious Education policy, and to review it regularly, so that we can take account of new initiatives and research, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school. We will therefore review this policy every three years, or earlier if necessary.

