



St Paul's Junior School R.E. Policy

'Flourishing Together, Rooted in Love'

Intent

As a V.A Church of England School, Religious Education has a unique place as a central subject in the curriculum of St Pauls. The 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils' R.E in our school makes a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Through our inclusive Religious Education Curriculum, we aim for all our children to:

- Be the best they can be in R.E
- Acquire a knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions and world views.
- Develop their understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook.
- Apply the insights of the principal religious traditions to their own search for identity and significance.
- Be introduced to a range of relevant disciplines including theology, philosophy and the human and social sciences.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose.
- Become aware of their own beliefs and values and to have a positive attitude towards searching for meaning and purpose in life.
- Develop a respectful and informed attitude towards other people who hold religious and beliefs and worldviews which are different from their own.

Implementation

Following the Cumbrian agreed syllabus, Religious Education is taught for an hour each week, in every year group, throughout the whole academic year. The long-term planning of our R.E curriculum has been composed using 'Questful R.E' units of work from the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education. We have communicated with our feeder infant school to ensure the children continue with the same Abrahamic global religion as in KS1 and another Dharmic global religion from a different tradition. Children will study other world religions as well as a prominent focus on Christianity across all year groups.



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Lessons are planned and delivered in a variety of ways ensuring that all children can access and participate in lessons. Interactive, practical activities encourage the children to discuss their ideas and extend their understanding of difficult concepts and challenging questions. We make use of our woodland and outdoor space to enhance and develop learning within this subject. We also believe this is paramount to promoting spiritual development and fostering a love of the natural world.

Pupils' progress and achievement in RE is largely based on the expected outcomes outlined in the Questful R.E. Syllabus. We have a skills progression framework to ensure children's skills and knowledge are constantly developing during their time at St Pauls. All the while, remaining aware that some aspects of teaching and learning in RE. For example, pupil's spiritual and moral development, are not subject to formal assessment, yet are central to good RE.

Impact

Our pupils are confident and able to talk about what they have learnt in R.E using subject specific vocabulary. Pupil voice demonstrates that our pupils enjoy R.E and are able to recall their learning over time. Children will be expected to leave St Paul's achieving at least age-related expectations, this will be evident through the whole school assessment and tracking system. They will have acquired a thirst and curiosity for the subject which will enable them to continue to flourish throughout their education and beyond. Outcomes in R.E books and class scrap books, evidence our balanced curriculum and demonstrate the progression our children make in terms of their knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal world religions, religious traditions and world views. Our Pupils demonstrate respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own.

Parental right of withdrawal from RE in Voluntary aided schools

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.'



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If a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher will explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Religious Education or Worship are objected to.

R.E. Lead: Mrs. Gemma Wright

Headteacher: Mrs. Jane Newby

Date September 2025, review date: September 2026