

ST. PAUL'S C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



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R.E. Policy

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The school's 2013 R.E. Policy has been reviewed and adapted. The R.E. syllabus recommended by the Diocese of Liverpool Board of Education is the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education syllabus and this was adopted by our School Governing Body and remains the basis for R.E. teaching here in St Paul's. In addition, the school's mission statement and directives outlined in "St. Paul's Path", together with monitoring and evaluation through "Classroom Monitor" and reference to the assessment system suggested by the Liverpool Diocese form a comprehensive system to ensure R.E teaching is consistently undertaken throughout both Key Stages.

**Setting the ethos of the school.**

The Governors, Headteacher and Staff of the school have a corporate responsibility in the creation and development of an ethos which reflects the specifically Christian nature of the school community and provides the atmosphere for life in, and beyond, the school itself. For this reason children, parents and visitors should experience a welcoming, reassuring, loving environment and witness the caring atmosphere which we aim to foster for the benefit of all.

**R.E and the National Curriculum.**

Although the amount of time allocated to this aspect should be within the guidelines of 5%, the Liverpool Board of Education regard this as a minimum and also recommends that Church schools should spend between 66% and 80% of the allotted time focusing on Christianity with the remaining time on non- Christian faiths particularly Judaism. As has been stated, the syllabus followed at St. Paul's from Easter 2014 is the revised R.E. Syllabus compiled by Diocese of Blackburn Board of Education. The themes for each year group and the suggested units of study have been printed for each class. It may be noted that the syllabus follows, in general terms aspects of a theological nature embodied in the school and church calendar but with a greater emphasis on Christian Values. Efforts are made to adapt the delivery of R.E. by crossing the traditional subject boundaries to incorporate aspects in other curriculum areas such as Literacy, Drama, PHSE, topic work and ICT. An additional aim of this is to promote awe, wonder and a deeper understanding.

**Collective Worship. (for full details please see Collective Worship Policy)**

It is recommended that schools should provide an act of collective worship for all pupils every day. At St. Paul's this may take the form of a whole school assembly, whole or part Key Stage assembly or class assembly. (See appendix 1 for current timetable arrangements.) Christian teaching has a high profile and families who are supportive of the Christian ethos are asked to indicate this preference when making application for a place at our school on behalf of their children although the Education Authority have the final decision on schools' admissions. Although it is not within our experience for a child to be withdrawn from worship and R.E. we are aware that parents have the right to do so. There is an official procedure to be followed which begins with the parent first making representation to the Headteacher and school governing body.

### **Multiculturalism in an Anglican Church school.**

Although our aim is to give children an understanding of Christianity, principles and practice within the context of the Anglican tradition we have, as a school, accepted that in the current climate of increased cultural tension and a developing multicultural society emphasis must be placed on respect, understanding, tolerance and acceptance of other people's thoughts, feelings, beliefs and way of life. It is with this in mind that other non-Christian faiths and cultures will be considered during R.E lessons, International week and tasks undertaken for our Community Cohesion work.

The five main interlinked elements of R.E syllabus encompass these broad aims and are as follows:-

Learning about Christian Values through bible stories and using these values in our everyday lives.

Exploring shared human experiences (i.e. those which are valuable in that they raise fundamental questions about life.)

Experiencing Christianity as a living faith (within the context of an Anglican church school.)

Developing pupils' own beliefs, values and attitudes.

Learning about the place and significance of Christianity and other religions, in the contemporary world including their traditions, beliefs and values.

### **Aims and objectives.**

- Our aim therefore is to give children an understanding of Christianity- its principles and practice within the context of an Anglican tradition and consider aspects of other world faiths particularly Judaism.
- As mentioned previously, the Blackburn syllabus outlines a general theme to be studied for each year band with specific elements to be targeted during each of the three terms.
- Within each theme, the development of programmes of study relevant to each key stage facilitate a child- centred approach and facilitate possibilities for cross- curricular links with other aspects such as PHSE and SEALS.
- Through the teaching process, experience of living, learning and worshipping in a Christian community it is hoped that children may come to find a personal faith for themselves and develop skills and attitudes relevant to both religion and life in general.

#### **Additional opportunities for worship.**

The strong connection between school and St. Paul's Church is maintained through the regular Wednesday morning Vicar's Assembly to which parents are also invited. There are also occasions during the year when the whole school attends Church e.g. Christmas for the Nativity service, the Easter Service and The Celebration of Learning service at the end of the Summer Term. More recently we have included Harvest, Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day services to facilitate opportunities for the school to join members of the community with the intention of developing our community links in addition to worshipping in our Mother Church.

The children are also made aware of opportunities which exist to join the Church based activities for young people e.g. Sunday school, Boys' and Girls' Brigade.

Each week, where possible, the whole school holds a "Celebration Assembly." This provides an opportunity to focus on the achievements of both individual and groups of children. This is a chance to celebrate talents, achievements and success and is seen as a special time to thank God and ask for his Guidance in future endeavours. We have recently initiated awards for recognition of Christian Values.

N.B. Children are able to see staff and voluntary assistant's involvement in Worship and R.E. and appreciate the importance we all attach to this aspect of school life.

#### **Children's work and Assessment.**

The syllabus provides a wealth of suggestions for each theme appropriate to each year group. Teachers have familiarised themselves with these and

are forging cross- curricular links to present the scheme in a meaningful manner. Follow up work may be viewed in individual children's books, class or group books or on individual class wall displays.

Photographic evidence of special services and events maybe displayed and viewed on the school website and are available for inspection in the R.E. Coordinator's files.

From September 2015 the R.E. Co-ordinator has encouraged class teachers to provide an overview of R.E activities undertaken to fulfil the criteria of each unit of study and the assessments they have undertaken. These can be found in the R.E. scrapbooks each class has and these will follow the children as they move up through the school. Informal and formal assessment is undertaken regularly. Each Spring class teachers assess RE writing using the RE criteria and from the academic year 2010-11 are required to assess each child in their care using "Classroom Monitor". Results provide the basis for evaluation and future planning needs.

#### **Resources.**

The school has a number of R.E. resources including many of the items mentioned in the Diocesan scheme of work. These may be located in the School Reference Library, Headteacher's Room, individual classrooms, Rona's Room and the Co-ordinator's shelf in Y5.

Mrs A. K. Rigby.  
Reviewed January 2016

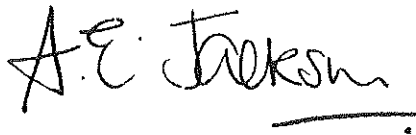
APPENDIX 1

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Whole School Collective Worship</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>KS1 Collective Worship / KS2 Class Worship</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Vicar's Collective Worship</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>KS2 Collective Worship / KS1 Class Worship</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Whole School Collective Worship / Celebration</b>

**Adopted by the Governing Body:-**

**Date**  
**28 June 2017**

**Headteacher signature**  
**Mrs A E Jackson**

Handwritten signature of Mrs A E Jackson in black ink, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**Chair of Governors signature**  
**Mr M A Roberts**

Handwritten signature of Mr M A Roberts in black ink.

