



Policy:	Religious Education (RE)
Policy Date:	January 2022
Review Cycle:	Every 3 Years
Reviewer:	FGB
Approved:	January 2022
Next Review:	January 2025

Chawton CE Primary School Religious Education Policy

In this Church of England school, the Religious Education provided is in conformity with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England as laid down in the Trust Deed. RE plays a major part in promoting the Christian aims, values and ethos of our school as expressed in the mission statement:

Our church school is one where we learn to live alongside each other; supporting, nurturing and collaborating with one another. We are a global family of children whereby every child is unique in the eyes of God. We are all loved by God and our core Christian values of Love, Courage and Fellowship, underpin everything we do.

Our vision is:

*Jesus said "I have come so that you might have life –life in all its fullness. "John 10:10
Jesus encouraged all his children to live life in all its' fullness. Through our core values of **love, courage and fellowship**, and with an enquiry approach to our inter-disciplinary curriculum, our children enjoy learning about themselves, about others and the world which we are guardians of.*

Aims

At Chawton CE Primary School, we aim to inspire children to have a genuine interest in the lives of others and to demonstrate respect for themselves, others and the world around them. We aim to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices and the religious beliefs and practices of other contemporary world faiths. Promoting religious understanding and respect, and challenging prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping to develop an understanding of the value of living in a multicultural, multi-faith and multi-lingual society. Our teaching will offer children the opportunity to ask and explore difficult or 'risky' questions within a safe but challenging context. We aim to help children to learn to clearly and coherently articulate their own personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences, while respecting the right of others to differ.

Legislation and guidance

It is a statutory requirement that schools teach religious education as prescribed by the locally agreed syllabus. In this school, this means the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education for Hampshire. R.E. will be taught at Chawton CE Primary School in line with the county agreed syllabus "Living Difference IV" and the school's trust deed. Religious education at Chawton CE Primary School is firmly rooted in the basic beliefs of Christianity. As a school, we follow the "Understanding Christianity" scheme of work to teach the Christianity Units ensuring this dovetails with Living Difference IV. Whilst the diocesan guidelines for

'Let all that you do, be done in love.' 1 Corinthians 16:14

*'Be strong and **courageous**; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'* Joshua 1: 5-9

*'If we walk in the light as He himself is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another...'* 1 John 1-7

religious education are incorporated into the Learning Journeys, our approach is ecumenical and children of all faiths and none are encouraged to reflect on what might be learnt from religion in the light of their own beliefs and experiences.

In accordance with the Education Act 1996, School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Education Act 2002 RE at Chawton CE Primary School will:

- Be taught to all children and young people other than those in nursery classes and except for those withdrawn at the wish of their parents.
- Reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions in Great Britain
- Not be designed to convert pupils, or to urge a particular religion or religious belief on pupils

Rationale

Religious education can provide a rich and wide range of experiences inside and outside the classroom, which give children opportunities to develop concepts and skills that will help them to make sense of their own experiences and beliefs, and to understand the beliefs and practices of members of faith communities. Indoctrination and conversion are not part of the educational process and therefore have no place in religious education. Religious education is an educational subject in its own right, taught within an educational framework.

Practice

We recognise the important contribution that the teaching of RE contributes to the development of children's spiritual, moral, cultural and social education. We teach RE as a blocked subject every half term but will also encourage the promotion of spirituality as this occurs naturally through conversations and questions. We ensure that children in EYFS receive approximately 36 hours of RE teaching per year. KS1 receive a minimum of 36 hours per year and KS2 a minimum of 45 hours per year.

Planning

A long term overview of the RE curriculum provides a 2-year cycle, to ensure continuity and progression. This ensures that Christianity is taught in 3 out of 6 units with 3 units focusing on another religion and includes both Abrahamic and Dharmic traditions. All Christianity teaching uses the Understanding Christianity resource. Medium term plans are being produced for each unit of work.

Teaching and Learning

We use the Living Difference IV cycle of Enquiry approach and the study of concepts to teach all of our RE units. All Christianity teaching uses the Understanding Christianity resource and the teaching of other faiths follows the Living Difference IV syllabus.

Each unit has a concept and a key question to be explored. We have 'golden thread' concepts which run throughout our whole school curriculum. These concepts (special, love, community and belonging) are introduced throughout EYFS and KS1 and returned to throughout KS2.

We are also building 'Pondering Time' into our RE curriculum. This is a time where children can direct their own enquiry and investigations and will often link with festivals and celebrations in the calendar of different faiths, thus allowing children time to explore religions not taught in our school curriculum. In EYFS and KS1 this will take the form of the whole class generating an enquiry question to explore together as a class. In Lower KS2, children generating 3 or 4 enquiry questions together and then individual or small groups of children choosing one to explore. In Upper KS2 children will individually generate their own enquiry question, under the guidance of the class teacher, which they will explore and then present their findings.

At Key Stage 1 and 2, pupils follow the Hampshire schemes of work, adapted to suit the ability and aptitude of the pupils and with a focus on Christianity and Judaism in Key Stage 1; Christianity and

Hinduism in Lower Key Stage 2 and Christianity and Islam in Upper Key Stage 2. The RE curriculum will be delivered in line with the procedures agreed in the school's teaching and learning policy. Throughout their time at Chawton CE Primary School, children are given the experience of visiting different places of worship.

Roles and responsibilities

It is the responsibility of each class teacher to ensure that they have read and understood this policy and to then plan and deliver the agreed RE curriculum in their classroom. Staff must ensure that they attend all relevant training organised to enable them to plan and teach the agreed RE curriculum.

It is the responsibility of the RE subject lead to:

- ensure that the RE curriculum is effectively planned, assessed and resourced
- to ensure that staff receive the training that they need to deliver the RE curriculum correctly
- to review and update this policy
- report back to governors on the teaching and learning of RE at Chawton CE Primary School

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

The governing body:

- has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Headteacher to account for its' implementation
- will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss the teaching and learning of RE.
- the governor who oversees RE is Rev Lesley Leon, one of our Foundation governors.
- all governors will ensure that they have read and understand this policy.

Assessment, recording and reporting arrangements

Class teachers will assess RE work in line with the school's assessment policies. Children's attainment in RE will be reported to parents as part of the annual written report to parents. Standards in the quality of the delivered RE curriculum will be monitored by the RE subject lead through the monitoring of assessment, lesson observations, pupil conferencing and book scrutiny, feeding back to the Head Teacher and SLT.

Links with other policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's policies on:

Teaching and Learning

SEND

Marking and Feedback

Equal Opportunities

Behaviour and

Anti-bullying

Right of Withdrawal

RE plays an important part in young people's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. It should be inclusive and broadminded; it is not appropriate for Religious Education to promote a particular point of view. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from RE lessons after discussion with the head teacher. Schools have a responsibility to supervise children who have been withdrawn, but not to provide any alternative teaching.

All parents are informed on the website of their right to withdraw their children from RE lesson.