



St Michael's CE Primary School Religious Education Policy

Rooted in Faith, Growing Together

Rooted in Christian principles, we are dedicated to inspiring and nurturing every member of our community to grow as resilient, empathetic, and courageous individuals. Through a commitment to aspiration, collaboration, and kindness, we foster a love of learning, a strong moral compass, and a deep spiritual awareness. Together, we empower our children to thrive academically and spiritually, becoming compassionate agents of change who positively impact the world around them.

'The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.'

Luke 8:15



Rationale and Principles

At St Michael's Primary School, Religious Education (RE) is a core part of our curriculum and plays a central role in the formation of the whole child. As a Church of England school, we follow the guidance of the Manchester Diocesan Board of Education, which states that high-quality RE should be academically rigorous, theologically informed, and deeply reflective of the school's Christian foundation.

We aim for RE to enable pupils to explore life's big questions and develop a deeper understanding of the major world faiths, with a particular emphasis on Christianity. Our RE curriculum supports children to learn about religion (theology, philosophy, and human and social sciences) and from religion, as they reflect on their own beliefs, values, and experiences in light of what they learn.

We follow the Manchester Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2023), which encourages an enquiry-based approach to RE and provides a strong, balanced framework for the exploration of Christianity and other worldviews. This is complemented by Understanding Christianity, a rich resource developed for Church schools to enhance the teaching of Christianity with theological depth.

RE at our school:

- Reflects our Christian vision and values, rooted in the teachings of Jesus and the wider Anglican tradition.
- Respects and celebrates the diversity of faith and belief within our local and national community.
- Encourages children to develop religious literacy so they can understand, articulate, and evaluate religious and non-religious worldviews respectfully and thoughtfully.
- Promotes spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development and prepares pupils for life in modern Britain.
- Enables all children to flourish academically, spiritually, and personally, regardless of their own faith background.

The subject is afforded a high status within the curriculum and is taught as a discrete subject with appropriate curriculum time, in line with diocesan and national recommendations (a minimum of 5% of curriculum time). RE is never used to proselytise; instead, it provides a safe space for pupils to encounter diverse beliefs and reflect on their own views.

In line with the Manchester Diocese guidance, our RE provision is monitored and supported by the RE subject leader, senior leaders, and foundation governors to ensure it is impactful, inclusive, and aligned with our Christian vision and ethos.

Intent

At St Michael's the aims and purposes of religious education are to enable pupils:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.
- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking

Implementation

- At St Michael's we follow the Diocese of Manchester RE Syllabus 2023.
- The teaching and learning approach has three core elements which are woven together to provide breadth and balance within teaching and learning about religions and beliefs, underpinning the aims of RE.
- RE is taught through units of work, from the syllabus, delivered weekly.
- The balance is 50% Christianity and 50% World faiths/ world views.
- RE is taught for 4% of the timetable at one hour per week. The statement of entitlement is 5%. Additional elements are covered in humanities, PSHE, science and visitors to school.
- Quality resources; video, books, magazines, artefacts, images and Bibles, are used to support each unit of work.

Impact

- Pupils are encouraged to evaluate their own learning.
- Teachers assess pupils' work through formative and summative assessment during each unit.
- The unit learning outcomes and the end of phase outcomes are used to track progress across a year group.
- Progress and achievement in RE is reported annually to parents.

