



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Date of approval: March 2018

Review date: March 2019

Complaints Procedure

If anyone in the school community feels that this policy is not being followed then they should raise the matter first with the Head Teacher and, if concerns persists, with the Chair of Governors who will facilitate the appropriate action, which may include an investigation. If there is a formal complaint then the school's complaints procedure will be followed.

Copies of this policy will be available in the staff handbook, from the school office and on the school website.

This policy has been agreed by the Head Teacher and the Governing Body.

Head Teacher signature: _____ Print name: _____

Date: _____

Chair of Governors' signature: _____ Print name: _____

Date: _____



secure foundations ♦ excellent practice ♦ faith, hope and love

Context:

St Luke's is a Church of England school. The Christian foundation and ethos are at the heart of all that happens in the school. The school is part of a diverse community and children from many faith and ethnic groups are recognised and welcomed. RE teaching at the school reflects both the Christian character of the school and the diverse range of children who are members of the school community.

The words of Robert Runcie (former Archbishop of Canterbury) are very significant with regard to the position of Church of England schools:

“A Church school nourishes Christians in their faith, encourages those of other faiths and challenges those with no faith.”

All children, of different faiths and no faith, will have equal access to the RE curriculum and be encouraged to participate fully in lessons.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with our Teaching and Learning Policy.

Aims:

This policy aims to set out how and why Religious Education is taught at St Luke's School. Together with the scheme of work, it aims to ensure continuity and progression in the teaching of high quality and stimulating Religious Education.

At St Luke's School we aim:

- To develop children's understanding of Christian beliefs, values and practices;
- To develop children's understanding of other world faiths;
- To encourage children to talk about their own beliefs and to develop their respect for others' beliefs;
- To give children an appreciation of religious experience;
- To give children an understanding of how religious faith can affect the way people live their lives;
- To give the children the opportunities to learn from religion;
- To provoke challenging questions about life, belief, self and issues of right and wrong.

Curriculum Content

- Religious Education is a core subject at St Luke's School.
- The school follows the Southwark scheme of work. This scheme focuses two thirds on the learning of Christianity and one third on other world religions. There is also a whole school focus week on Christmas and Easter each year. Please see the RE scheme of work (Appendix).
- There are many cross-curricular links to be made within the Religious Education scheme of work and these are encouraged. Links are also made with our PSHE work, collective worship and the annual calendar of Christian festivals and other celebrations.

Teaching and Learning

- Religious Education is allocated a minimum of 5% teaching time in all classes over the year, which equates to approximately 1 hour/week in KS1 and 1¼ hours/week in KS2.
- Class teachers are responsible for planning and teaching the Religious Education curriculum to their class.
- Equal emphasis is placed on learning *about* and learning *from* Religious Education.
- Religious Education is differentiated according to the age and ability of the individual children.



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- Class teachers use a range of teaching methods to engage, motivate, inform, teach and create a sense of awe and wonder. This may include using artefacts, images, drama, music, stories and whole class, group and individual work. IT resources are integrated into both the teaching and learning of Religious Education wherever appropriate.
- Visitors to the school and visits made from the school (including to St Luke's Church, other local churches and other places of worship) are an important part of the teaching and learning.
- Teaching and learning also draws on the experience of children and their families and encourage children to reflect on their own ideas.
- Children are encouraged to record their learning and ideas in a range of different formats – writing, images, using IT, photographs, diagrams and records of drama and discussions.
- Religious Education displays are used regularly to celebrate and share children's learning within the class and with the wider school community.
- Teachers are offered appropriate training for the teaching of Religious Education, including from school staff, clergy and external organisations, such as the London Diocesan Board for Schools.

Assessment

- Assessments are made of both areas of learning - learning *about* religion and learning *from* religion – in a variety of ways, against the "I Can" statements.
- Children are involved in self assessment of their work wherever possible.
- Assessments are both formative (on-going) and summative (end of topic assessments).
- Teachers adapt their plans according to these assessments.
- Assessments are input to our data tracking programme and are used to track progress, monitor achievement and to inform parents in children's annual reports.

Resources

- RE resources are kept in the Group Room cupboard.
- Labelled boxes contain artefacts and photos to support the delivery of the RE curriculum.
- People - parents and members of the clergy etc - are excellent resources!

Equal Opportunities and Inclusivity

- At St Luke's School we aim to provide a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum to all pupils, regardless of their gender, ethnic, socio-economic or religious background.
- All pupils will be given equal access to the Religious Education curriculum, through effective differentiation and resourcing.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education curriculum, but are strongly encouraged to discuss any concerns with the Head Teacher in the first instance.

Monitoring and Moderating of Standards in Religious Education

- The subject leader for Religious Education is responsible for reporting the standards in RE to the Headteacher and to the RE Governor.
- Termly monitoring of teaching and learning in Religious Education is made through talking to the children, scrutiny of workbooks, data analysis and learning walks/observations.
- This monitoring is moderated by our LDBS advisor annually and through the SIAMS inspection.