



# Religious Education Policy

Date: Autumn 2022

Review: Autumn 2024

**EARLEY ST. PETER'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**(1) Aim**

The aim of this policy is to explain how Religious Education (R.E.) is organised at Earley St. Peter's School.

**(2) Introduction**

As a Church of England School, we believe that R.E. plays a vital role in forming strong foundations with regards to children's social, moral, cultural and spiritual development. We acknowledge our Christian foundation whilst valuing the contributions of other faiths.

**(3) Key Points**

**(i) Aims of RE teaching**

We believe R.E. provides children with opportunities to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world faiths;
- explore key concepts within different faiths, which will help pupils to develop an understanding and respect for different faiths, beliefs, values and traditions;
- consider difficult and puzzling questions about the meaning and purpose of life;
- learn about religious teaching;
- develop their sense of identity and belonging so preparing them for life in a multi faith and multi-cultural society;
- develop skills of enquiry and response;
- develop their oracy skills through discussion of complex ideas;
- reflect on their own experiences and to explore their own beliefs and values.

R.E. does not seek to place religious beliefs on children or to undermine their own beliefs by promoting one faith tradition over another. Within the school, R.E. is separate and distinct from Collective Worship

**(ii) Scheme of work**

The school follows the National Curriculum requirements for teaching R.E. The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education (ODBE) recommends that Church Aided schools follow the Wokingham Agreed Syllabus, which is available for all Wokingham LA schools.

In line with current Oxford Diocese recommendations, units of work which cover an area of Christianity are planned using the 'Understanding Christianity' resource. This resource has been written to cover all areas of the Agreed Syllabus relating to Christianity. All other units of work are planned using the 'Discovery' scheme of work. This scheme has been written to follow the Agreed Syllabus and involves studying Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism and Islam. The units of work about Islam are optional within the Agreed Syllabus, but have been included, as this reflects the faith background of many of our pupils. Each term, the scheme outlines units of work based on key questions and learning objectives.

#### (iv) Assessment

During the course of the academic year pupils carry out a variety of assessment tasks to provide a good evidence base of pupil attainment. This is used to contribute to a school portfolio with samples of R.E. assessments, tasks and pupil work. Teacher assessments are recorded on Target Tracker.

#### (v) Monitoring

During the year, it is intended that the R.E. subject leader should monitor learning by looking at pupil work, interviewing pupils and conducting learning walks.

#### (vi) Scaffolding

All children are entitled to access the R.E. curriculum. At Earley St Peter's, we recognise that in some lessons, pupils will require additional support in order to reach their learning potential. When scaffolding, we consider the following: the impact of adult support, pupil prior experience, vocabulary, worked examples and Success Criteria.

#### (vii) Teaching and resources

- The school follows the recommended time allocation for R.E., which is 1 hour per week for Key Stage 1 and 1 ¼ hours for Key Stage 2.
- A range of resources are used: video and audio clips, books, artefacts, music, drama and ICT.
- From time to time, visits to places of worship occur and visitors are invited to talk about their faith.
- Once or twice a year, pupils participate in sessions run by R.E. Inspired, which cover some of the Christian aspects of the R.E. scheme of work.
- We believe that good R.E. teaching draws upon the children's own experiences and presents religions as living faiths.
- Following discussion with the Headteacher, parents have the right to withdraw their children from R.E. lessons.