



Hartlebury Church of England Primary School

**'We aim to offer a life enhancing encounter with the person and teachings of Jesus; an encounter that will develop the nature of who we are.'**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY SEPTEMBER 2016**

Discussed and agreed with Governors.....

Discussed and agreed by staff.....

### **Introduction**

Our policy is founded on the Religious Education in Church of England Schools Statement of Entitlement, June 2016, and underpins our commitment to the teaching of RE.

In line with the Statement of Entitlement we believe a high quality religious education (RE) curriculum is essential to meet the statutory requirement for all maintained schools to teach a broad and balanced curriculum. At the heart of RE in church schools is the teaching of Christianity; rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ. There is a clear expectation that as inclusive communities, church schools also encourage learning about other religions and world views; fostering respect for them.

In our voluntary controlled school RE is taught according to the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Worcestershire. We aim to deliver a religious education curriculum that is rich and varied; enabling learners to acquire a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith and the value systems of the range of faiths and world views studied.

As a Church school we develop an enquiry based approach to all learning; an approach that through RE engages with sacred texts and helps develop religious and theological literacy. Links with the Christian values of Love, Tolerance and Forgiveness and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are intrinsic to our RE curriculum and have a significant impact on our learners.

RE has a high profile within our school curriculum and learning activities provide fully for the needs of all our learners. We aim to inspire learners by the subject and develop a wide range of higher level skills, such as reasoning, enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection to deepen their understanding of the impact of religion on the world.

### **Aims**

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world; enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

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- To enable all pupils to be religiously literate appropriate to their age and understanding
- To enable all pupils to give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- To develop an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning.
  
- To engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none
- To reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical development

These aims are conveyed to the children through our RE Aim, which is shared with them and displayed on their books

### **Effective teaching and Learning about Religions and World View**

We have a duty to provide accurate knowledge and understanding of religions and world views. They include:

- A challenging and robust curriculum based on an accurate theological framework
- Rigorous assessment that ensures progression in knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts
- A curriculum that appreciates and engages with the richness and diversity of religious experiences worldwide
- A pedagogy based on respect; respect of different views and interpretations. One that is based in real dialogue and theological enquiry
- RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development

### **Curriculum Balance**

Christianity is the major study in our school, with at least 2/3s of our teaching being with Christian focus. At least 10% of our curriculum time, in Key Stage 2, and 5% in Key Stage 1 is committed to the teaching of RE, through discreet and cross curricular learning; .

### **Developing Staff Expertise: Ensuring Success**

We have a committed approach to ensuring all staff are confident in teaching RE in a relevant way.

- This subject has a dedicated subject lead- Miss Rebekah Salter
- At least one member of staff has specialist RE training or a qualification
- All staff have training appropriate to their level of confidence
- All staff and governors have an understanding of the distinctive role and purpose of RE in our curriculum.
- A Single Point of Contact governor, John Hellens, has responsibility of RE in school

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