

## **RE Curriculum Statement**

### **Intent:**

We are a Catholic school with Catholic Faith at the centre of our lives. We recognise and value every individual as special and unique in the image and likeness of God. Religious Education at St. Peter's respects and promotes each child's innate capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and spirituality. Our Religious Education curriculum leads our children to aspire not to have more, but to be more; children are taught about God's love; they learn about their Christian responsibilities; children are provided with experiences of church, Catholic and Christian traditions, as well as being taught to be respectful and understanding of people and traditions from other faith backgrounds. Through Religious Education our children learn about their unique place within the home, school and parish community. Central to our ethos are the opportunities for prayer and worship which lie at the heart of our faith. We will promote and encourage these at every level, together with the skills and attitudes necessary to live out the Christian message in the modern world.

### **Implementation:**

RE being a core subject is taught for 10% of the curriculum, in line with the Bishops' Conference recommendations. Collective worship is in addition to this. We follow the 'Come and See' Religious Education Programme from Reception through to Year 6.

This programme provides:

- opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection in implicit and explicit ways.
- children with the language of religious experience - a 'literacy' in religious activities, places, stories, symbols and rituals, people and objects.
- a 'systematic presentation of Christian event, message and way of life' in ways appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child.
- that for its implementation and production it requires the adults involved to understand the underlying theological as well as educational principles.
- appropriate materials about other faiths.
- academic respectability as in other curricular areas – utilising appropriate stages from the National Curriculum.
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We explore the religious dimensions of questions about life, dignity and purpose within the Catholic tradition. Links are made with the children's own experience and with universal experience. It will raise questions and provide material for reflection by the children on their own experiences. It will enable them to explore the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition and where appropriate other faith traditions.

### **The Process**

Search – Explore (1 week) This is the introduction to the topic where the children's life experience is explored, the questions it raises are wondered at, shared, investigated and their significance reflected on.

Revelation – Reveal (usually 2 weeks) This is the heart of the programme where knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith is revealed through the Word, in Scripture, Tradition, doctrine, prayers, rites and Christian living.

Response – Respond (1 week) This is where the learning is assimilated, celebrated and responded to in daily life.

## **Other Faiths and Religions**

Judaism is usually studied in the Autumn term. The other religion to be studied is either Hinduism, Islam or Sikhism – the religion focus is carefully selected with consideration given to the most relevant and appropriate in light of each class and current local, national or world-wide events. At present Islam is the other faith studied, last year it was Hinduism because of the number of families who are of this faith in St. Peter's.

## **Assessment**

Ongoing informal assessment against the Standard Indicators and Formal Assessment Tasks are used to inform planning and to identify areas for focus and support. The children complete a cold task at the beginning and end of each topic to assess the progress in their knowledge and understanding of that topic. Assessment is moderated internally and externally within TRUST meetings.

## **Impact:**

Children are happy learners within RE. They experience a wide-ranging number of learning challenges in RE and know appropriate responses to them.

Through RE, children deepen their appreciation of their faith and fulfil their God-given talents.

Visits within RE have enriched the lives of the children and they are able to discuss how the experience impacted their knowledge and understanding.

Children talk enthusiastically about their learning in RE and are eager to further their learning in the next stages of their education.

Fundamental British Values are evident in RE and children understand how RE can celebrate difference. The children grow to know and love God, develop their moral and spiritual nature and deepen their faith.

Children live their faith in an active and positive way, always aware of the presence and love of Christ guiding them.

Children develop their relationship with God and become religiously literate.

Through religious practice, the church's traditions of prayer and worship are upheld.

Faith plays a central role in the lives of the children and the decisions they make.

Children are confident, resilient and actively engaged in the wider society.

The school environment reflects and celebrates our Catholic faith.

Children are able to define, describe and discuss areas of RE. They confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, comparing, giving reasons, explaining the meaning of Biblical stories and considering the impact of beliefs.

Children reflect and consider important questions about RE.

Children know about a wide variety of Saints, how we can learn from their example, and historical religious events and figures. They are able to make links between Jesus' life and teaching and link it to their own lives, making links between different forms of Christian action, such as in rituals and charitable acts.