

Curriculum statement for Religious Education



Intent

At St John's we believe our RE curriculum will-

- . deepen the children's understanding of their faith
- . enhance their religious knowledge
- . enable children to link skills with religious teachings
- . be creative in our approach
- . show our Catholic identity as a school
- . be explicit to the whole community and beyond
- . Support and link with our RSE, 'Respect', scheme of work
- . to understand and action Catholic Social Teaching throughout the school
- . use the RED/Day by Day Diocesan planning document.

Our school values are-

- **Joyful in our faith**- we will celebrate our faith in and out of school and children will understand the 'joy' that being part of our Catholic community brings.
- **Aspirational in our learning**- we will aspire for 'all' our children to achieve whatever they are capable of and support them to achieve their personal potentials, no matter what.
- **Confident in being me**- we want 'all' our children to be accepting of others but most importantly be accepting of who they are and confident in themselves
- **Caring in our hearts**- 'education above all is a matter of love and responsibility' Pope Francis. We are here to teach our children exactly that.

'Catholic schools, with RE at their core, are central to supporting parents, priests and teachers to hand on the deposit of faith in its fullness to a new generation of young people'.

'Catholic education is an integral and essential part of the church's mission, to make the person of Jesus Christ known and loved, and to place him and the teachings of the Catholic church at the centre of people's lives. Catholic schools support Catholic parents in their responsibility for the academic, physical, spiritual, moral and religious education of their children, in accordance with the teachings of the church'.

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

In a Catholic School, all pupils are invited to encounter Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as the living person at the heart of their study in a way that respects their individual religious identity. Religious Education plays its part by enabling all pupils to be confident and secure in their religious faith and knowledgeable and respectful of other religions, and so play a crucial role in building a cohesive society (Christ at the centre).

Through using the RED, we are able to understand, discern and respond to the teachings of the Catholic church.



Collective worship is crucial to the spiritual life of the school, not just the academic. It supports pupils' moral and spiritual development and is an important part of a Catholic school's distinctive nature. Taking part in daily worship shapes community cohesion by creating a consistent structure relating to our core values that children recognise.

Ultimately, RE will be at the centre of everything we do, Christ centred.



Implementation

At St John's, we use the Diocesan RED scheme of work and the Day-by-Day teaching resources.

This offers our children the opportunity to understand, discern and respond to their faith.

Through teaching these six themes throughout the school year the children will build on their knowledge and understanding as they move through the school, they are

- . Creation and Covenant
- . Prophecy and Promise
- . Galilee to Jerusalem
- . Desert to Garden
- . To the Ends of the Earth
- . Dialogue and Encounter

The following strategies underpin the 'effective' delivery of religious education in a Catholic school.

- . to engage in systematic study of the mystery of God, of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ
- . to enable pupils to continually deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively
- . to present an authentic vision of the Church's moral and social teaching to provide pupils with a sure guide for living and the tools to critically engage with contemporary culture and society.
- . to give pupils an understanding of the religious and worldviews present in the world today and the skills to engage in respectful dialogue with those whose worldviews differ from theirs.
- . to develop the critical faculties of pupils so to bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.
- . to stimulate pupils' imagination and provoke a desire for personal meaning as revealed in the truth of the Catholic faith.
- . to enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through religious education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum.

Expectations for a RE lesson-

- . Start each RE lesson with a quiet piece of music to set the scene/create the right atmosphere
- . Start the lesson with a prayer (own class prayer books)
- . A candle should be lit
- . A learning objective (LO) should be clear and visible for each lesson and start 'To...'
- . Success criteria should be evident for each lesson
- . Use a variety of teaching styles and activities to keep children's interest and pace of the lesson going



- .Cross curricular links should be made where possible
- .Differentiate as much as you can/more able challenge
- .End each RE lesson with a time of reflection/prayer, music played again and candle blown out
- .To use the RED/Day by Day planning documents and resources provided by the Diocese.

We will also record aspects of our school life in our class RESPECT books and our Catholic Life book.

RE will be taught for **10%** of our weekly curriculum time, which is as follows

Year Group or Class	Total curriculum time (in minutes)	Total RE curriculum time (in minutes)	Total RE Curriculum time (in Hours and minutes)	% RE curriculum time (to one decimal place)
R	1575	157.5	2 hours and 37.5 mins	10%
1	1575	157.5	2 hours and 37.5 mins	10%
2	1575	157.5	2 hours and 37.5 mins	10%
3	1650	165	2 hours and 45 mins	10%
4	1650	165	2 hours and 45 mins	10%
5	1650	165	2 hours and 45 mins	10%
6	1650	165	2 hours and 45 mins	10%



Impact

The outcome of excellent religious education is religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills - appropriate to their age and capacity -to reflect spirituality, and think ethically and theologically, and who recognise the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.

We will

- Follow the Diocesan lead on the areas of focus for assessment using the RED/Day by Day.
- As a school we will assess each unit by having a focus group of children. By the end of the year all the children will have been assessed in depth during one of the themes but still assessed for all units {best fit}
- We will come together to do an 'in-house' moderation at least once a year

This will enable us, as a staff, to moderate and work with each other to understand progression throughout the school in RE using RED/Day by Day resources.

Along with the termly RE moderation meetings we will also

- Have regular governor monitoring RE visits
- RE learning walks- a different focus each time, questioning, display, more able challenge, differentiation etc
- Book looks- looking at presentation, content, coverage etc
- Termly deanery meetings- moderation
- Annual deanery INSET