

**ST. PETER'S R.C.PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY**

**1. Mission Statement**

**GOD IS AT THE HEART OF ST. PETER'S SCHOOL.**

We offer a Catholic education which encompasses The National Curriculum whilst developing the individual child.

We are a family who share warmth and celebrate successes together in a welcoming, supportive environment.

**EACH OF US IS SPECIAL AND UNIQUE.**

**2. a) Rationale of Religious Education**

“Catholics believe that religious education is not one subject amongst many, but the foundation of the entire education process. The beliefs and values it communicates should inspire and unify every aspect of school life”.

(Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 1988)

We also recognise that our children come from a range of backgrounds and abilities. We should, therefore, be sensitive to each child's life experiences and should value each child's contribution to school life. Our teaching of religious education will reflect this.

**b) Aims and Objectives**

- To examine the context for religious education by reflecting on life today and the place of the church.
- To consider connections between some aspects of the religious dimensions of life in our society and the life and vision of the church.
- To recognise the roots of teaching methods in Scripture and living tradition of the church.
- To situate the Curriculum Directory in developments in the life of the universal and local church.

**3. Religious Education in the Classroom**

Since the total curriculum in our school is based on the values of the gospel and because we see all education as revealing the mystery of God, we recognise two aspects of religious education in the school:

- (a) Implicit, or unstructured Religious Education – those opportunities which arise in the course of the school day to lead the pupils through curriculum content or through relationships to a religious understanding of their

implications (cf. evaluating the Distinctive Nature of a Catholic School K – 33). It is the policy of this school to use such opportunities as they arise.

- (b) Explicit or Curriculum religious education – those timetabled or planned periods of time given to an explicit consideration of religious education in the classroom. It is the policy of this school to give 10% of taught time in the school week to religious education.

#### **4. Programmes of Study**

To fulfil our aims and objectives we use the 'Come and See' programme which fulfils the criteria laid down by 'Broad Areas of Attainment in R.E.' and 'Curriculum Directory' as prescribed by the Diocese. In EYFS we will start trialing the new curriculum the Religious Education Directory (RED) in 2023-24 along with a small number of other schools in our Diocese.

#### **5. The Process of teaching**

The teaching and learning process for Come and See reflects the Catholic Catechesis approach to Faith. The Catechism says we must begin by asking 'What does to believe' mean? (CCC,26)

In answer it names:

- The human search
- God's Revelation
- The response of faith

#### **6. Assessment, Recording and Reporting**

The purpose of assessment, recording and reporting in R.E. is to ensure effective learning to celebrate growth and achievement and enable further progress' N.B.I.A. 1997.

#### **7. Policy Monitoring and review**

This policy is monitored by the Religious Education Co-ordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the governors and whole staff every 2 years.

Reviewed on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 by the Headteacher and governing Body