



Holy Souls Catholic Primary School

Policy for Religious Education

(To include Collective Worship and Sex and Relationships Education)

Mission

Holy Souls School welcomes you.

Holy Souls School is a place where we pray together

Holy Souls School is a place where we care

Holy Souls School is a place of learning.

Holy Souls School is a place where everyone is important

Aims of Religious Education at Holy Souls School

As published in the 1996 RE Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools in RE in Catholic School is “The comprehensive and systematic study of the mystery of God, of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, the teachings of his Church, the central beliefs that Catholics hold, the basis for them and the relationship between faith and life: in a manner which encourages investigation and reflection by pupils, develops the appropriate skills and attitudes and promotes free, informed and full response to God’s call in everyday life”. It is by these aims that Religious Education is taught at Holy Souls Catholic Primary School.

How we meet our stated aims

The aims are met through:

- The scheme of work
- Sacramental Education
- Prayer and Collective Worship

Legal Right

It is a parents’ / guardians’ legal right to withdraw their child from RE and Collective Worship. Further information can be obtained from the school prospectus.

The Scheme of Work for RE

It is an entitlement of the school that “RE is allocated 10% of curriculum time as required by the Bishops’ Conference.” This does not include i.e. Prayer, Assemblies, Christmas Plays, Circle Time, PHSE, Citizenship and Hymn Practice. The celebration of Mass “may be considered the equivalent of half-an-hour of RE, but only once in any week.” (Communicating Christ).

At given times during the year RE is taught as a series of lessons e.g. Holy Week, Christmas and when necessary for Sacramental Year Groups. Sex and Relationship Education in Upper Key Stage Two is taught as a series of lessons and taught separately to the RE scheme of work.

RE is taught as a discreet subject and not subsumed into the rest of the curriculum.

ii) Scheme of Work:

Holy Souls School follows the Diocesan curriculum strategy provided by “Learning and Growing as the People of God”.

iii) Planning/Long Term Planning:

The RE Subject leader has responsibility for long term plan indicating which units are to be taught, when and for how long. This plan is reviewed in the RE monitoring cycle throughout the year.

Medium-term Planning / Short-term Planning:

Medium term planning is the responsibility of the class teacher and should be completed on a unit by unit basis according to the long-term plan and weekly plans amended as necessary. Weekly planning is stored on Staff Common in a folder created for each year group. Short term planning is completed weekly with access available to the RE subject leader for monitoring purposes and other year group teachers to view prior learning/work covered.

iv) Teaching, Assessment, Recording and Reporting:

RE is taught in classes and skills are developmental. Whilst taught independently it is cross curricular when and where appropriate.

Assessment for Learning: Pupils have completed work marked at the end of each task. Marking is carried out in line with the whole school marking policy. Marking should give pupils individual feedback and inform them of achievement whilst

outlining next steps. Verbal feedback may be given and this denoted on the pupils work. An overview of each unit is stuck into pupils books to support them throughout the unit. It shows then what the unit will cover and when appropriate will be used as a form of self-assessment.

End of Unit Assessments are carried out as directed in the Monitoring and Assessment Focus four year rolling programme. The RE subject leader takes responsibility for ensuring these are completed and passed on annually.

The RE subject leader takes responsibility for ensuring these are available on this system and that they are monitored.

Information regarding assessment can be located within the RE subject leader's documentation.

Reporting to parents to discuss children's work and progress with the class teacher takes place during parental consultations in autumn and spring term. Teaching staff, RE leader, Deputy Head, Head teacher are available at any time for parents to meet with regarding RE matters. Annual reports to parents are completed in the summer term and sent out in July. Use can be made of the focus assessment sheets when completing end of year reports and they reflect the progress made throughout the year.

vii) Resources:

A resource list is available from the RE subject leaders folder. Resources are requested annually with a comparative budget for literacy and Numeracy given. Year 3 and 6 pupils are presented with a certificate to remember the celebration of their Sacraments – First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Year 6 also receive a Prayer Book as a leaving gift.

Sacramental Education

The Sacramental Programme for pupils is covered through our scheme of work with specific homework tasks during this time. Our Liturgical Life Calendar of events found in the RE subject leaders file will indicate dates for parents meetings, enrolment Masses, retreats etc. The Saturday group from the parish are taught by catechists in the parish and have access to all learning materials and attend all necessary gatherings.

Prayer and Collective Worship

Prayer and collective worship are at the heart of the catholic life of our school. All pupils participate in daily prayer, daily acts of collective worship and the celebration of the Eucharist regularly. The Liturgical Life Calendar indicates when and where this occurs and who is responsible for the preparation of these different activities. As a school we celebrate all feast days that occur during the school calendar or in celebration with our parish family.

At the beginning of each week a whole school act of collective worship takes place usually in the form of a Gospel assembly. The aim is to give glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our response to God's invitation. The focus is to develop the Sunday's Gospel and in doing so, consider spiritual and moral issues, to explore our own beliefs, to encourage participation and response, to develop community spirit, to promote our common ethos, to promote our Gospel values and to reinforce our positive attitudes. It is usually led by the Head Teacher. Class led acts of collective worship hymns practices will further develop the mission theme for the week and will include reference to the relevant Jesuit virtues for that time of the year.

A weekly Rosary Club on Thursday lunchtimes for KS1 and KS2 is run by The Legion of Mary. Pupils from Year 4 and above can attend Altar Training during the summer term. The Junior Legion of Mary is open to all Key Stage two pupils and held every Wednesday until 4:30pm.

Each classroom has a dedicated Prayer focus which should be changed to match the liturgical year. They should reflect the age of the pupils and can display appropriate artefacts. These areas are the responsibility of the class teacher and their class.

Sex and Relationships Education

Sex and Relationship education is taught during the summer term in Upper Key Stage Two through the use of the Diocesan "All that I Am" materials.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

Everyone who attends Holy Souls Catholic School is entitled to a Catholic Education.

Links with the Parents and the Community

At all times opportunities to develop and involve ways in which the school/parish/home work together are sought after. Weekly letters to parents from

the Head teacher share information regarding events which are taking place both in school and within the parish as well as celebrating all that has been achieved during the week. As outreach and support to parents, the weekly newsletter (sent out on Mondays) includes the Sunday Gospel and the sharing of the school's mission for the week. The weekly parish Bulletin is sent home every Friday. We make use of Prayer Bags at both class and whole school level.

The Role of the Religious Education Co-ordinator

This is outlined in the job description.

Health & Safety

All relevant risk assessments for visits are carried out, overseen and stored by the Head teacher.