



Mission Statement

*We journey together: loving learning; daring to discover;
caring for all; with Jesus as our guide.*

At St Paul's Catholic Primary School, we firmly believe that Religious Education is not a stand-alone subject; instead, a religious education is the foundation of the whole educational process. The beliefs and values studied in Catholic religious education inspire and draw together every aspect of the life of our school.

At St Paul's, we aim to embrace a positive partnership between the home and school parish, and offer our community the opportunity to deepen its relationship with God the Father, through his Son, Jesus, with guidance of the Holy Spirit, nurtured through prayer, worship and knowledge of scripture. We aim to help all children understand that they are uniquely created and loved by God and are part of a community, where each member is valued and respected. All children will be helped to appreciate the richness and diversity of God's wider world and understand what Christians believe and do.

All children will be:

- Helped to recognise and appreciate the religious and spiritual dimension of life.
- Stimulated to engage in a search for personal meaning in life, and begin to address some Big Questions.
- Enabled to know and enter into the beliefs, feelings, attitudes, values, practices and worship of Catholic tradition.
- Led to a deeper personal faith.
- Enabled to understand and respect all those who hold religious beliefs, and those who hold none.
- Helped to understand the importance of prayer and explore the meaning behind Catholic celebrations and the Sacraments.
- Helped to uphold the British Values of promoting *"tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions"* and helped to *"acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures"* (Department for Education November 2014)



- To support parents in their role as ‘The first teachers of their children in the ways of faith’ (Rite of Baptism)
- To present an engaging R.E. curriculum, which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, underpinning other subjects in the curriculum
- To create an atmosphere of faith and trust in the love of God
- To foster in children a sense of awe and wonder for God’s created world and an awareness of their unique place in it
- To develop positive attitudes towards one another, through our teaching and by example; living out the Mission Statement of our school

Our Religious Education Programme

We use the *Come and See* programme of Religious Education. In accordance with the guidelines from the Bishops' Conference, all children at St Paul’s receive 10% of Religious Education teaching each week. This equates to 2 ½ hours in all Key Stages. This time allocation is indicated clearly on class timetables, and distributed appropriately across the timetable to ensure quality time is given for effective teaching and learning throughout the week. This time does not include collective worship, hymn practice, assemblies or other religious celebrations.

The *Come and See* programme is based on the theological foundations of the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Catechism and the revised RE Curriculum Directory and includes the Catholic attainment levels. *Come and See* offers the opportunity to search, to explore, to discover, and to respond; this is part of what it is to be human. Religious Education is the core subject which is central to the life of our school.

EPR

The children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and for one another. This is implemented through our EPR (Education in Personal Relationships) programme, which is linked to the revised Diocesan curriculum map. This includes, RSE (“Journey in Love”), SEAL, Citizenship and Personal and Social Education. (See Curriculum Map and RSE Policy)

Planning for teaching and learning

Non-Negotiables

- All pupils must work in a safe, secure and stimulating environment.
- Lessons must enable positive relationships where self-esteem is fostered.
- Lessons must be planned with a balance between input, discussion and activity.
- Each year group plans are informed by the *Come and See* programme and take into account the new interim Standards of Assessment.
- Teaching staff have high, but realistic expectations for all groups of pupils.
- In the Foundation Stage, Religious Education drives the whole curriculum. Through engaging, practical, integrated activities, children can learn more about themselves, other people and the world around them and develop their religious knowledge, skills and understanding. Religious Education makes an active contribution to the areas of learning outlined in the curriculum for Foundation Stage.
- Standards of attainment descriptors and driver words are used to inform learning objectives for each lesson. Success criteria are used to ensure pupils understand how to make progress through achievement.
- Planning should ensure opportunities for pupil self-assessment are built into each lesson, age and stage appropriately.

- Learning tasks and questioning must be clearly differentiated and a range of activities to ensure a wide variety of learning styles. For example, opportunities for drama, art, writing and ICT should be planned for.
- Planning is saved on Adshare, and monitored by the R.E subject leader, to ensure continuity, differentiation and progression.
- The *Come and See* website resources are used to support lessons, varying the strategies used for teaching and learning. www.comeandseere.co.uk
- Teaching staff must benefit from CPD, to broaden their own subject knowledge and understanding of RE.

Please refer to the *Come and See* materials for more detail about planning, teaching and learning strategies and ideas and curriculum coverage.

Marking and feedback

Work should be marked in accordance with the School Marking Policy. Work should be marked in relation to the Learning Objective, and, where possible, pupil self-assessment and peer-assessment should be developed. Comments or feedback should encourage children to reflect and analyse. Opportunities for children to respond to marking should be planned for and carried out regularly, to ensure learning is moved on.

RE Displays – Non-negotiables

RE displays must:

- reflect the current season of the liturgical year through liturgical colours, signs and symbols
- be changed for each topic
- have 'Come & See' written clearly at the top, in an engaging font
- have the current topic title for 'Come & See'
- be in a prominent position in the classroom
- celebrate pupils' work
- have the key vocabulary relating to the current topic
- have the key scripture relating to the current topic
- have key questions relating to the current topic to engage pupils and challenge thinking
- be interactive, where possible

Assessment and Record-Keeping

Each class teacher has the responsibility for maintaining assessment records on the individual pupils in their class. Each term, a selection of work is moderated for each child. Standards are entered onto the school's tracking system (Target Tracker). The Senior Leadership Team and R.E subject leader then analyse attainment and progress at whole class and group level. Where pupils are not making good or better progress, intervention strategies should be planned for.

Formative assessment strategies are used regularly by each class teacher and target sheets or 'I can' statements are used to support pupils with self-assessment.

R.E. is reported formally to parents annually, in a written report. Each year group ensures that standards of attainment are recorded on a central system (Target Tracker) so that the R.E. subject leader is able to monitor progress across the school. Where possible, the school works with the local Deanery and the Diocese to carry out joint monitoring and moderation to secure judgments.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Termly lesson observations/drop-ins, planning and book scrutinies will form part of the whole school monitoring process, and actions and areas for development will be used to inform the school improvement plan and R.E. Action Plan. Where possible, monitoring by the R.E. co-ordinator will be conducted in conjunction with Senior Leadership team, R.E. Link Governor and, when possible, the Diocesan RE Advisor.

Other World Faiths

Other world faiths are taught in line with the *Come and See* RE scheme. Judaism is studied every autumn term. One of the other world faiths other than Christianity is taught during the summer term. Where possible, visits to places of worship are planned. In Year 2, we visit the Woking Mosque (Shah Jahan). Year 4 pupils visit the Hindu temple in London (Shri Sanatan Hindu Mandir). Pupils are taught that we should respect the views, opinions and beliefs of others with sensitivity and understanding. Children of other faiths or none are encouraged to share their own personal experiences and beliefs throughout the school year and especially during these specific celebrations of other world faiths.

Sacramental Preparation

Preparation for the Sacrament of the Eucharist and Reconciliation (parish-based programme) usually takes place when the children are in Year 3, though other children in Key Stage 2 may also participate. A special celebration mass is held for all First Holy Communion pupils after receiving the Sacrament, and a gift is given to the children from the school.

Some members of staff are catechists in the parish.

Links with Parents/Carers

We value highly the importance of parents in their child's spiritual development and our aim is to fully engage in partnership with them. We do this through:

- Inviting parents to all school religious celebrations such as masses, class assemblies, Nativities and other seasonal celebrations
- Supporting parents at their child's First Holy Communion by attending services
- Involving parents in other key events such as Harvest Festival, and all other special events supporting the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education
- Ensuring parents are well-informed about school life through monthly newsletters and the school website.
- Written reports for R.E. are provided annually

Links with Our Wider Community

At St Paul's, we are part of a thriving parish, and also local and wider world communities. All of these communities help to deepen the spiritual, social, moral and cultural understanding of our pupils and help them to see their place in the wider world. Our pupils have enrichment of their faith through:

- Joining the parish for celebrations, where they are welcomed into the church throughout the liturgical year and play a key part in celebrations.
- Sharing key events in school with parishioners.
- Serving the local community through fundraising
- Serving the wider world community through fundraising for C.A.F.O.D. and Missio
- Developing pupils' understanding of the wider world community through full participation in international days and events such as One Million Children Praying the Rosary.

The Role of the Religious Education Subject Leader

- To be responsible to the Governing Body, Head teacher and all colleagues for the monitoring of planning, teaching and assessment of religious education based on the development of the children at each stage in their learning.
- To liaise with the Diocesan R.E. Adviser, particularly through attendance at the Primary Coordinators' meetings, and inform the Governors, Headteacher and colleagues of current standards and developments within religious education.
- To ensure monitoring is time-tabled in order to support staff and raise pupil progress and attainment and include classroom observations, work scrutiny and collective worship observations in line with school practice.
- To work with the Headteacher and all colleagues, to undertake a regular audit/review of Religious Education, in-line with the school improvement/development plan.
- To manage a budget and ensure resources are available to support the teaching and learning of Religious Education, including other faiths.
- To organise school-based INSET, when appropriate, to continue and support the professional development of all staff for Religious Education.
- To advise individual colleagues and induct new members of staff as required on the Religious Education Programme, '**Come & See**'. Give advice and support on creative and innovative teaching methods and assessment processes to ensure all groups of pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in religious education.
- To set up, and maintain, a portfolio of annotated work in order to monitor progression and continuity. Samples of work should reflect the appropriate standards for Religious Education.
- To ensure in-school moderation for Religious Education is in line with other core subjects.
- To ensure that cross-curricular links such as literacy skills, multi-cultural issues, equal opportunity, the use of Information Technology and EPR/PSHE/RSE are reflected in religious education.
- In consultation with the Headteacher, to communicate the '**Come & See**' programme of study with parents/carers, governors and the parish community.
- To ensure any updates or new initiatives associated with religious education are communicated to staff, parents/carers, governors and the parish community.
- To liaise with other primary colleagues and carry out cross-school moderation. Liaise with secondary colleagues when possible.

Equal Opportunities and SEND

At St Paul's, we recognise the right of all children to have complete access to Religious Education and to develop fully their spiritual being including support in the receipt of the Sacraments. We acknowledge the responses, thoughts and ideas of all pupils and value them as a vehicle for discussion and for deepening understanding and development of religious knowledge. We recognise that some of our pupils may be from other faiths, or none, and will support and include all pupils. In accordance with British Values, the school will promote "*an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.*" (Department for Education - November 2014)

Resources and where to find them

Studio:

- Objects suitable for all seasons of the liturgical year
- Resources to support child-led worship
- Resources to support the teaching of Other Faiths

- Candles

Classrooms:

- All classes have a full set of age-appropriate Bibles
- Each class teacher has access to the Come and See website
- Green and purple cloths for the prayer tables
- Collapsible prayer tables for Gospel Assembly and class-based worship
- Posters
- Candles and lighters
- Music

Hall:

- Range of items and objects to support assemblies, including candles, praying hands and coloured cloths