



## Religious Education Policy

**Inspire ★ Believe ★ Achieve**

### **Inspire**

Everyone at Yealand Church of England Primary School has the responsibility to inspire each other.

By opening doors, unlocking opportunities through personalised planning, developing experiences and opportunities, and nurturing individual talents and passions through the modelling and delivery of our Christian Values.

**Friendship ★ Peace ★ Love ★ Hope ★ Forgiveness ★ Creativity**

### **Believe**

We believe in all individuals. We trust and encourage them to make decisions which are right for them as individuals and for us as a school.

We believe in the strength of our community. We look outwards and take opportunities and support with both hands.

We believe in God. We believe that He will guide all our decision making and journeys and He will help us to fulfil our aspirations as individuals and for our school.

### **Achieve**

Through inspiration and belief, we can inspire and believe that we can all achieve great things.

### **Mission Statement for Religious Education**

At Yealand C. of E. Primary School the educational process is rooted in the living faith of the school. Religious Education has an important role in reflecting and conveying the Christian Distinctiveness of the school always aiming for the highest standard, always striving for excellence.

The staff provide a friendly atmosphere where the children can feel secure and develop their academic, social, moral, physical, artistic and spiritual needs.

The children are encouraged to work and play together in a socially acceptable manner, exercising high standards of self-discipline, with due regard for the feelings of other people, their environment and property, giving them a sense of responsibility and personal values.

Staff, parents and children are committed to their school and its developments, striving to achieve a shared commitment between the school, church and the local community in as many aspects as is possible.

### **Religious Education in Yealand CE Primary lies at the very heart of the curriculum.**

As a Voluntary Aided school, the management of Religious Education is a distinctive role of the Governors and Head teacher of Yealand CE Primary. RE is provided in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and in accordance with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England and Methodist Church. The Governing Body as a whole is responsible for determining the nature of Religious Education provided in this school.

*"In Church of England schools the students and their families can expect a religious education curriculum that is rich and varied, enabling learners to acquire a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith. Church schools should provide a wide range of opportunities for learners to understand and to make links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of the range of faiths and world views studied. Church schools should use some form of enquiry approach that engages with, for example biblical text, and helps develop religious and theological literacy. Links with the Christian values of the school and*



*spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are intrinsic to the RE curriculum and should have a significant impact on learners.” RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016*

The Governors at Yealand CE Primary school have adopted the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus for RE which fulfils all legal requirements and the RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office 2016.

*“Christianity should be the majority study in RE in every school. In Church schools that should be clearly adhered to. KS 1 – 3 at least 2/3rds of RE curriculum is to be Christianity. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, however organised, should be committed to the delivery of RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but must be no less than 5%.”*

*RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016*

#### **The aims of Religious Education in Yealand CE Primary are:**

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils’ own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Appropriate to age at the end of their education, in Yealand CE Primary, the expectation is that all pupils are religiously literate and, as a minimum, pupils are able to:

- Give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- Show an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning.
- Engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.
- Reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions.

This can be expressed in more detail and distinctively as:

We learn about

- God who reveals the truth about himself and humanity through creation, the giving of the law, his action in history and through the prophets.
- God who reveals himself ultimately in Jesus his Son, living among us and dying and rising for us.
- God who reveals himself in his Spirit working in the living faith of the Church experienced through scripture, tradition and reason.

We learn from

- an empathetic response to the Christian faith and a critical engagement with it.
- responding personally to the stories and teachings of Jesus Christ.
- examples of Christian living which give priority to the values of unconditional love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, compassion and faith.

#### **Religious Education in Yealand CE Primary will also help pupils to:**

- learn *about* other faiths, their beliefs, traditions and practices and *from* them through encounter and dialogue.
- recognise and respect those of all faiths in their search for God
- recognise areas of common belief and practice between different faiths
- enrich and expand their understanding of truth while remaining faithful to their own tradition
- enrich their own faith through examples of holy living in other traditions.



- reflect and promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

### **Religious Education in Church Schools will help pupils to:**

- reflect theologically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society;
- reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief.
- see how the truth of Christianity is relevant today.
- understand the challenge faced by Christians in today's pluralist and post-modern society;
- develop the skills to handle the Bible text.
- recognise that faith is based on commitment to a particular way of understanding God and the world.
- begin to develop their own commitments, beliefs and values.
- develop a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious.
- experience the breadth and variety of the Christian community.
- engage in thoughtful dialogue with other faiths and traditions
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition

### **Religious Education in Church Schools will enable:**

- pupils and teachers to talk openly and freely about their own personal beliefs and practice without fear of ridicule
- pupils to make excellent and appropriate progress in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity
- pupils from Christian families to talk openly about their beliefs and values in lessons and to grow in their faith
- pupils from other faith backgrounds to understand and be encouraged in their faith
- pupils with no religious background to be given an insight into what it means to be a person of faith
- pupils of all backgrounds to have a safe place to explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society.

### **Special Education Needs Provision**

In line with the schools SEND policy, teachers will support pupils identified on the register appropriately. Interventions, support and differentiation will be utilised fully in order for all pupils to access the curriculum and make progress. Planning and teaching ensures children identified with SEN do not have a barrier to learning and achievement in RE.

### **Assessment and Record Keeping**

Progress and achievement is tracked in Religious Education through observations, discussion and written work. Assessments are made in line with those recommended in the guidelines of the Blackburn Diocese Board of Education RE Syllabus.

### **Collective Worship**

Collective Worship takes place daily within school and although it compliments and enriches our Christian Ethos in school, it is discrete from the Religious Education taught.

### **Monitoring**



The quality and content of Religious Education will be reviewed annually. The Coordinator's responsibility for monitoring and evaluating includes:

- Reviewing teachers' plans, and monitoring Diocesan 'Expectations of Attainment'
- Reviewing pupils' work, including book scrutiny and discussion
- Attending teacher planning sessions when required
- Leading curriculum review/update opportunities
- Working alongside colleagues within the classroom where possible
- Observe the teaching and learning in classrooms

### **Resources**

Resources for the teaching of Religious Education include;

- Blackburn Diocesan Materials
- Understanding Christianity
- Denominational artefacts and posters
- Chatter Boxes for children

The library also has reference books easily accessible for children's own use and each class has their own reference materials.

The church, parish clergy and various visitors and speakers are also valuable resources.

### **Parental Rights of Withdrawal**

Parents have a statutory right to withdraw their child from all or part of collective worship and R.E. although this cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.

The Head teacher should be notified in writing if parents wish to exercise this right.

### **Complaints about the Provision of Religious Education**

It is hoped that any complaint will be resolved informally by the Head teacher in consultation with the Governors, and possibly with advice from the Diocese. However, if the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved the matter will be adjudicated by a specially constituted sub-committee of the Diocesan Board of Education acting on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese.

**RE Leaders: Mrs Katrina Gale & Mrs Kathryn Brown**

**Head Teacher: Mrs Katrina Gale**

**Date policy reviewed:**

***'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith.'* 1 Timothy 4:12**