



Religious Education Policy

Inspire ★ Believe ★ Achieve

***'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**

Intent

At Yealand Church of England 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.

At Yealand Church of England Primary School, the teaching of Religious Education underpins our school vision and allows our children the opportunity to share and explore their own beliefs, learn about the beliefs of others and allows them to ask 'Big Questions' about the world we live in.

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

We believe passionately that the ethos of our school, with the teaching of Religious Education alongside 6 fundamental Christian Values, provides Yealand children with essential tools for being inspiring citizens beyond our school gate and showing them that the smallest act of kindness can lead to mighty change for them and others.

Implementation

As a Voluntary Aided school, the management of Religious Education is a distinctive role of the Governors and Head teacher of Yealand Church of England Primary. Religious Education 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.

'Parents and pupils can expect that in a Church school RE will have a high profile within the curriculum and will be a priority for senior leaders. The RE curriculum is intrinsic to the outworking of a Church school's Christian vision in enabling all pupils to flourish. In addition, the RE curriculum will contribute to British values and spiritual moral social and cultural development.' Religious Education in Church of England Schools: A Statement of Entitlement.' The Church of England Education Office 2019

The Governors at Yealand Church of England Primary school have adopted the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus for Religious Education which fulfils all legal requirements and the RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office 2019.

'Reflecting the school's trust deed or academy funding agreement parents and pupils are entitled to expect that in Church schools Christianity should be the majority religion studied in each year group and should be at least 50% of curriculum time. 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% in key stages 1-4.' Religious Education in Church of England Schools: A Statement of Entitlement. The Church of England Education Office 2019.

Both classes at Yealand have developed a rolling curriculum for Religious Education using the Questful RE online toolkit as provided by Blackburn Diocese Syllabus. Children's reflections and comments are collated within a class board book, which is shared and discussed regularly with the children. 'Swallow' class displays and uses 'The Big Frieze' which helps the children to understand connections between the concepts and scripture.

At Yealand Church of England, we regard St.John’s Church as an extension of our classrooms, a living resource which allows us to explore, question and deepen our understanding of our learning about Christianity and our own beliefs. We recognise how our Religious Education can impact on our school’s community and we are continually looking for ways to strengthen and deepen our links with our Church, school community, the wider Blackburn Diocese, as well as celebrate and learn from the rich culturally diverse communities within our county.

Impact

Through our provision of Religious Education at Yealand Church of England Primary School, our children flourish and are able, unique individuals who can listen, share and question their own beliefs and the beliefs of others. These essential skills and values extend beyond our school gate, where our children are courageous advocates who continue to be brave, compassionate and fundamentally kind. Our children make our community great.

Assessment

Assessments for Religious Education are made through observations, reflections and discussions, as well as through written and recorded work.

At the end of each unit of work, teaching staff use the Blackburn Diocese assessment tool assess individual children’s knowledge and understanding, which are monitored and tracked for ongoing progress.

◆	Explain the impact of religion on believers’ lives, identify distinctive beliefs within and between religions, and express their own views
✦	Show understanding of and describe, using a wide vocabulary, religious beliefs, actions and values. Begin to apply ideas to situations and experiences.
■	Ask important questions, make links between stories and beliefs, begin to identify the impact of religion and make connections to their own experiences.
▲	Retell stories using religious words to identify features and expressions of religion and begin to ask questions
●	Recall stories, recognise features of religion and talk about their own experiences.

At the end of the school year, every child receives a separate Religious Education report which share the curriculum covered throughout the year as well as reflections and engagements the individual has made.

Resources

Yealand Church of England school has a range of high-quality resources which are stored within individual classrooms allowing for easy access.

Monitoring and Evaluations

The Religious Education subject leader works alongside all the teachers, monitoring and evaluating the quality and standards of Religious Education throughout the school. Opportunities to review the scheme, policy and published materials are given on a regular basis during staff meetings. We also work closely with our Blackburn Diocesan School Advisor to ensure that staff training and resources are up to date.

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