





Policy for Religious Education
Haselbury Plucknett Church of England Primary School
(Learning and Growing Together)

Date ratified by Governing Body	22nd January 2024
Review Cycle	Every 2 years or when there is a change in statutory guidance or legislation
Review Date	January 2026
Signed Headteacher	
Signed COG	



1. **Learning and Growing Together** In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do, and is based on the 'Parable of the Sower' in Matthew 13: 1-23.
 - a. Working together with parents and the wider community of church and village, we offer our children the chance to achieve their very best, academically, socially and spiritually.
 - b. 'Religious Education (RE) in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to "live life in all its fullness." (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect; encouraging all to live life well together.' RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office, Feb 2019

2. **Policy Statement** RE has a very high profile within the Haselbury Plucknett Primary School curriculum and makes a significant contribution to preparing pupils for life in modern Britain. Learning activities provide fully for the needs of all learners. Pupils will be inspired by the subject and develop a wide range of skills such as enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection. RE teaching will help to deepen their understanding of the impact of religion on the world. Christianity is taught as a living and diverse faith, focused on the teachings of Jesus and the Church, alongside a range of other religions and worldviews. RE encourages pupils to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while creating a safe space for them to explore their own beliefs and questions of meaning.

3. **Legal Requirements**
 - a. As a Voluntary Controlled (VC) School, at Haselbury Plucknett Primary School we are required to follow the locally agreed syllabus Somerset Awareness, Mystery and Value (www.amvsomerset.org.uk), drawn up by the standing Advisory Council for RE [SACRE].
 - b. Section 48 of the 2005 Education Act requires the inspection of religious education in schools which have a religious character. This is the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). This will happen every 3 – 5 years depending on the outcome.

4. **Managing the right to withdraw** Parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the RE curriculum. In this event, we will undertake responsibility for their supervision with regard to health and safety. Information on these arrangements are clear on our website. There will always be opportunity for parents to discuss the contents of the RE curriculum should they have concerns.

5. **Aims of RE**
 - a. 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.
 - b. To enable pupils to know about and understand other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, and to appreciate the diversity, continuity and change within those religions and world views.
 - c. To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose.
 - d. To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual / philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.



6. Teaching and Learning In line with the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement [2019] at Haselbury Plucknett Primary School, we aim to provide:

- a. A curriculum that enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice.
- b. A curriculum that draws on the richness and diversity of religious experience worldwide.
- c. The opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religious and world views as lived by believers and compare and contrast this to Christianity.
- d. A pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations; and, in which real dialogue and theological enquiry takes place.
- e. Engaging and varied learning activities that provide for the needs of all learners, supported by high quality resources.
- f. The opportunity for pupils to develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection.
- g. RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development and also to pupils' understanding of British values.
- h. An assessment process which has rigor and demonstrates progression based on knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts.

7. Implementation

- a. Religious education may be taught in a 'whole class' setting but with flexibility to allow for discussion, questioning and reflection in small groups and individually.
- b. Visits to local churches and other places of worship are encouraged.
- c. A variety of teaching approaches are encouraged
- d. Teacher presentations, role play, drama and storytelling.
- e. Questions and answer sessions, discussions and debates.
- f. Individual and group research.
- g. Photographs, pictures and maps.
- h. IT, film, podcasts, radio, websites, to research and communicate ideas.

8. Curriculum balance and time Reflecting Haselbury Plucknett Primary School's trust deed, Christianity should be the majority religion studied and should be at least 50% of curriculum time. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, should be given to RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but no less than 5% in key stages 1 and 2.



9. **Resources.** We use the exemplars available on the Somerset AMV website to inform our own planning. Other resources available include artefacts, posters, books and DVDs that link to the religions that we study which are kept in our general resource's storage area. We also use online resources that are appropriate for the age of the children we are working with and vet them to ensure they are from trusted sources.

10. **Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment, Recording, Reporting**

- a. Governors have responsibility for monitoring how the RE in the school reflects its Christian vision.
- b. The Headteacher has overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluation.
- c. The RE subject leader will assist the Headteacher by monitoring long term and medium-term plans.
- d. The RE subject leader will assist the Headteacher by monitoring RE work.
- e. The subject leader will keep a file of examples of work to demonstrate continuity and progression.
- f. The subject leader will manage resources.
- g. The subject leader will endeavour to keep up to date with information, initiatives and developments in religious education and disseminate this as appropriate.
- h. The subject leader will be aware of staff development needs and encourage continuing professional development.
- i. The subject leader will facilitate the sharing of good practice.
- j. The subject leader will be responsible for drawing up an action plan for religious education. Generally, this will be an annual plan and should be informed by this policy.
- k. The subject leader will liaise with the Diocesan adviser with responsibility for Religious Education.
- l. Assessment will be based on the assessment objectives provided by the Somerset AMV syllabus for 2019 linked to the overall long-term plan for RE. Teachers will keep a record of children's progress against the assessment objective which are statutory.
- m. Assessment should be used to inform children's next steps in their RE learning and link into planning for a progressive RE curriculum.