



Religious Education Policy 2024/27



Our mission in Saint Patrick's is to develop each child's talents and potential in a caring Catholic community inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ.

The Mission statement is central to everything that we do at Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary. It is our starting point for creating policy and procedure, as well as informing whole school strategy and Curriculum planning.

***This statement has been shortened to a child friendly phrase –
'To Live, Love and Learn like Jesus'***

Rationale

The Catholic nature of our school is central to our rationale and values, and informs every aspect of our school life. The school's Mission Statement was reviewed in Summer 2023. The children, governors, staff and local community worked together, to allow all stakeholders to play a vital role, in ensuring religious education was central in our school and the lives of everyone in our school family.

Our Saint Patrick's community - at all times and in everything that it does - attempts to serve as witness to the Catholic faith through Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is our firm belief that parents are the first and foremost educators of their children and that we have been called upon to assist and help them achieve their God given task. Each and every child in our school is valued and encouraged to achieve human wholeness – spiritually, morally, emotionally and academically in a happy, secure Christian environment. We will do our utmost to provide the best possible Catholic education for every child in our care.

The new Religious Education Directory objectives are to be phased into Religious Education lessons and will be fully in place for the implementation deadline of September 2026. The curriculum content for the new Religious Education Directory follows the six-branch structure across the liturgical year, using the four curriculum lenses of 'Hear, Believe, Celebrate & Live.' The Relationship and Health Education programme follows the Ten:Ten programme of study for RHSE 'Life to the Full' and is in-line with new Relationships Education guidance which became statutory in September 2020.

Teachers will assess children regularly according to specific learning outcomes relating to knowledge, understanding and skills throughout the school, to highlight progression and continuity. Children are Teacher assessed for each unit of work and these are inputted into our school tracker, at the end of each unit. The Diocesan guidelines on Age Related Expectations will be used to guide the Teacher assessment.

Principles of Religious Education

Religious education is a right and will be provided for each child within the school. The religious education provided will be in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church and Scripture. Religious Education will be taught as a core subject, which is carefully planned and recorded, at an age appropriate level or a level appropriate for the individual child's needs. Continuity and progression will be maintained through planning, monitoring and assessment. The RE planning is from Clifton Diocese and is taught as a core subject, and therefore must have 10% of curriculum time each week. Religious Education will be engaging and challenging, and taught with a cross curricular approach, to engage through subjects such as Drama and Art. Those teaching Religious Education will be aware of and sensitive to the fact that children come from a variety of faith backgrounds, some from practising Catholic families, some from non-practising families, some from families of other Christian denominations, some from other world faiths and some with no religious belief. Our children will be taught to respect others whose beliefs are different from their own and to develop their own knowledge and understanding of those faiths.



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Special Educational Needs

Planning should account for the age and ability of the pupils so that **all** children have full access to RE. Differentiated materials and support will be provided for children with Special Educational Needs and those for whom English is an Additional Language.

Other Faiths and Other World Religions

Catholics are called to be committed to respecting people of other faiths and to recognise that we see the face of Jesus in others. We aim to promote knowledge and understanding of other religions, so that our children can be the best citizens in our world today. In our multi-faith society today, RE should introduce children to the background and beliefs of people of other faiths, so that prejudice and misunderstanding can be overcome from an early age.

In Reception through to Year 5 we follow the RED guidance on the teaching of other faiths. Currently, Year 6 follow the previous Clifton Diocese plans for Year 6. In September 2025 Year 6 will follow the new RED under the guidance of Clifton Diocese. We also have close links with the Bristol & West Progressive Jewish Congregation and Wiltshire Islamic Cultural Centre, who visit our school and lead us in assemblies to learn and understand more about their faith.

The classroom teacher will:

- Ensure 10% of the teaching timetable is devoted to teaching RE
- Prepare plans in line with the Clifton Diocese training
- Ensure their subject knowledge is secure before teaching lessons and ask for help and or/CPD as needed
- Mark all work in line with the marking policy
- Assess the work and progress of the pupils
- Share assessment data with the RE Leaders
- Ensure that the children are aware of their RE knowledge and what they need to do to improve
- Report to parents on progress of pupils in terms of a written report and interviews at Parents' Consultation Evenings

The RE Leaders will:

- Ensure that the policy, training and planning are implemented correctly and reviewed regularly
- Maintain effective links with teachers, parents, governors, clergy and the Diocese
- Liaise with Camino Partnership schools regarding planning, curriculum, assessment and monitoring of RE
- Ensure new staff have a clear awareness of the expectations of teaching and working in a Catholic school
- Use staff meetings to keep the staff informed of developments regarding RE and ensure consistency in planning, assessing, marking and monitoring
- Prepare, promote and monitor the effective teaching and assessment of RE
- Build up resources to enhance the teaching of RE and other world faiths
- Ensure that each year group teaches other faiths to promote knowledge, awareness and understanding

Policy Determined: October 2024

Policy to be reviewed: October 2027