

# Tilston Parochial CE Primary School

Bringing out the Best in Everyone.  
*'Encourage one another and build each other up.' Thessalonians 5:1*



Tilston Parochial  
CE Primary School

## RE Policy

Date of policy: March 2021
Review cycle: Annual
Reviewed by: Amy Winter
Approved by: Achievement and Safeguarding Committee
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## Our School Values

<b>JOY</b>	'A happy heart makes the face cheerful.' Proverbs 15v13
<b>COURAGE</b>	'Be strong and courageous, do not be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1v9
<b>FRIENDSHIP</b>	'There is a friend who sticks closer than brother.' Proverbs 18v24
<b>RESPECT</b>	'Do to others as you have them do to you.' Matthew 7v12
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.' Psalm 133.1
<b>TRUST</b>	'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as we trust in him.' Romans 15.13

## Mission statement

'Bringing out the best in everyone by encouraging one another and building each other up.'

## **The Importance of Religious Education**

Religious Education provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

Religious Education encourages pupils to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while exploring their own beliefs and questions of meaning.

Religious Education makes a distinctive contribution to pupils' learning by enabling them to reflect upon themselves as whole people, experiencing life through the body, the mind and the spirit. The purpose of Religious Education is to help pupils understand the significance of religion and its contribution to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## **Introduction**

At Tilston Parochial Church of England Primary School, religious education plays a major role in preparing children for life, introducing them to a range of beliefs and values, many of which play a significant part in daily life, and helping them to develop tolerance and respect for others. In this area of Cheshire where there is little ethnic diversity, the school's RE curriculum has a particularly important role to play in educating children about the great variety and diversity of cultures and beliefs which exist within our country and should link closely to the global dimension of our curriculum.

As a Voluntary Controlled School, we follow the Cheshire West and Chester syllabus and are beginning to enhance this with the Understanding Christianity resource.

## **Teaching Time**

Religious Education will be allocated not less than 5% of the timetable. Often this is more with Church services and additional RE trips and experiences.

Within lessons we use questions so that pupils can actively reflect, investigate and make meaning of relationships, the world and God.

Children's learning in RE should be linked to other curricular areas and reflect upon important community and world issues and events.

## **Withdrawals**

Parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the Religious Education curriculum. In this event, the school will undertake responsibility for the supervision of withdrawn pupils with regard to health and safety and alternative work will be provided.

## **Aims**

The purpose of teaching Religious Education in school is to:

- show children that Christianity is about following the living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and is relevant to their daily lives
- extend children's ability to reflect upon themselves as whole people, experiencing life through body, mind and spirit
- help pupils understand the significance of religion and its contribution to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Develop skills to handle Bible text.
- Become active global citizens and courageous advocates serving our neighbour.
- Find a reason for hope in a troubled world.
- Understand how a religious faith can sustain us in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition.

## **Principles**

We aim through our teaching to:

- contribute to the spiritual, social and moral development of the school as a caring, 'family' community and the pupils as individuals
- assist and encourage experience of Christian life and worship.
- encourage and understanding and appreciation of the rich diversity of religious belief and practice in society today

## **We aim to encourage children in our school to:**

- grow in awareness of others through learning activities involving sharing and co-operation and to develop trust and respect for others
- formulate their own sense of purpose in life and to embark upon a personal search for a faith by which to live
- learn something of the religious experiences of others
- develop their own beliefs, values and ideals in the light of their experiences
- develop respect for other people, their beliefs and their lifestyles
- develop an enquiring attitude towards religion and to explore activities of prayer and worship

## **Implementation**

Religious Education will be taught throughout the school predominantly by the class teacher and may be supported from time to time by clergy from local churches and visiting speakers. Visits to St Mary's Church, Tilston and support from Reverend Jane Stephenson, are built into the Religious Education programme.

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.

A variety of teaching approaches are encouraged:

- teacher presentations, role play and storytelling
- question and answer sessions, discussions and debates
- Philosophy for Children (P4C)
- individual and group research
- photographs, pictures and maps
- multimedia presentations

Mind Friendly strategies will support teaching and learning as appropriate. Religious Education will be integrated where appropriate with other subjects for example history, geography, SEAL and PSHE. Religious Education resources will be reviewed and updated regularly. Classroom support will be welcomed under the guidance of the teacher, eg. skilled individuals and parents. INSET will be included within the Strategic School Impact Plan.

### **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities will work alongside the other children in their group, as in other curriculum areas, but differentiation in approach, language and expected outcome will be appropriate to the varying needs in the class. We aim to meet the full entitlement of every child in our school. To optimise inclusion, the children's differing needs for learning will be addressed through differentiated activities.

### **Equality**

Religious Education as an essential part of the curriculum should be relevant, worthwhile and accessible to all. It should express that all pupils are loved and valued by God as part of creation. We aim to help the children in our school to respect themselves and to be sensitive to the needs of others.

### **Resources**

Resources are stored centrally and resource boxes include artefacts and topic materials. An audit of Religious Education resources is outlined in the Religious Education Action Plan.

### **Assessment and Monitoring**

Assessment is formative, focusing on each child's individual performance in a range of activities in such a way that immediate feedback can be given. Progress is monitored and evaluated through observations, tasks and discussions with the child.

Foundation Stage will continually assess pupils through observations which are recorded in their individual Learning Journeys.