



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Policy September 2023

Religious Education at ST Margaret's cannot be confined to the timetabled lessons devoted to R.E. Indeed, it is woven into the fabric of school life with Christ at its centre. We strive to live out our shared Gospel Values and our Mission Statement through teaching, example, worship and witness, giving our children, staff and families the opportunity to explore their faith and deepen their personal relationship with God.

Aims

- Enable pupils to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively through an engaging and stimulating curriculum.
- Develop the knowledge and understanding of the catholic faith by delivering the Come and See RE curriculum in an interesting, enjoyable and inclusive way, in which each individual can fulfil their potential.
- Promote reflection and discussion on the Church's moral and social teaching and how it is reflected in modern society.
- Give opportunities for pupils to relate their Catholic faith to daily life.
- Raise pupils' awareness, respect and tolerance of other faiths and traditions.
- To recognise that parents are the first teachers of their children's faith and to work in partnership with them and the local parish to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith and its traditions.

Teaching and Learning

At St Margaret's RE is a core subject and, therefore, is accorded 10% of curriculum time. The purpose of the curriculum is to explore the religious dimensions of questions about life (Life creation), dignity (Incarnation) and purpose (Redemption) found within Scripture, prayer and Catholic tradition.

We aim to provide pupils with a variety of learning experiences through:

- Direct teaching.
- Questioning and discussion.
- Reflection.
- Scripture study and storytelling.
- ICT, music, drama, art and other creative activities.
- Use of artefacts and other resources such as 'Church Story', 'God Story' and bibles.
- Independent research.

- Links to other subjects and areas of life.
- Reinforcement of the children's knowledge and understanding of the Sacraments.
- By example, being witness to our faith through our relationships with others.
- Pupils being pro-active in the prayer life of the school.

Planning

To fulfil our aims, we use the 'Come and See' programme of study as recommended by the Diocese of Northampton. It offers a progressive, comprehensive and systematic approach which enables staff to:

- Work together in Year groups to plan in line with other subjects.
- Use suggested activities or ones that are adapted and annotated to suit the needs of the class.
- Use the 'Come and See' website resources to enhance learning.
- Provide opportunities to demonstrate pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Provide time for reflection and prayer.
- Provide differentiated tasks to enable every pupil to fulfil their potential.
- Provide opportunities for each style of learning.

Marking

Real-time feedback and marking is used in RE in line with the School's marking policy, with emphasis put on religious knowledge and understanding.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

- Planning is annotated and evaluated to assist with future planning.
- Staff draw on a wide range of evidence to assess including discussions, observations, responses to questioning, etc.
- Staff use nationally agreed End of Year Standards to assess pupils' work.
- These statements are highlighted on Target Tracker at the end of each topic to show how far the pupil has gone towards achieving it.
- Data is submitted to SLT 3 times a year in line with other subjects.
- Progress is tracked as pupils move through the school.
- Pupils in KS2 undertake self-assessment activity at the end of each topic.
- Information on strengths, weaknesses, progress and achievement of pupils is reported to parents 3 times a year.

Resources

- Each teacher has access to 'Come and See' website which is updated regularly and offers high quality resources and interactive activities for use in the classroom.
- Each teacher has an RE folder which includes all relevant information needed to teach the scheme.
- Each classroom has a crucifix.
- Each classroom has a prayer focus area with a candle and liturgically correct coloured cloth.
- Each classroom has a wall display dedicated to the current topic being taught in RE which pupils can use effectively to support their learning and which celebrates their achievements as the topic progresses.
- Each classroom has a set of bibles, Gods story and Church Story books.
- Prayer room available to all classrooms.

Other resources are available from the RE cupboard including artefacts to support the teaching of other faiths.

Staffing and Responsibilities

The subject leader will:

- Co-ordinate and lead the development of RE throughout the school.
- Monitor the teaching and learning in RE by scrutiny of work, lesson drop-ins, discussions with pupils, environment monitoring and data analysis.
- Assist the Headteacher in driving up standards in RE through half termly meetings to discuss consistency in curriculum delivery.
- Advise and support colleagues with the planning and teaching of Religious Education.
- Organise and distribute resources and assist colleagues in their use.
- Update/replace resources as necessary using RE budget.
- Attend RE subject Leader network meetings.
- Liaise with the Diocesan Religious Education advisor Primary RE.
- Keep up to date with changes and developments in the RE curriculum and ensure smooth implementation through disseminating information at regular staff meetings and delivery of appropriate CPD.
- Support new and non-Catholic staff through induction training.
- Supply and keep up to date RE folder for each teacher.
- Maintain a subject leader's file.
- Attend NORES training courses.

- Liaise with Pastoral Care, Chaplaincy, PSHE teams, local clergy and Governor's to develop the Catholic Life of the school and wider community.
- Work with the Headteacher to update the RE Self Evaluation document.
- Produce an annual report for the Governing body.
- Ensure that each term parents are given information on topics and suggestions as to how they can support their children at home.

Class Teachers will:

- Prepare plans with year group colleagues and deliver the RE curriculum.
- Assess and report pupils' achievement and progress in RE termly.
- Create and maintain stimulating and interesting displays.
- Create and maintain a prayer focus area.
- Prepare class assemblies.
- Liaise with Subject Leader to ensure high standards in teaching a learning are being met.
- Attend appropriate CPD.
- Promote the Catholic ethos of the school by example, facilitating class prayer and reinforcement of the liturgical feasts and seasons of the Church through the classroom environment.
- Liaise with year group colleagues in moderation of work to ensure consistency of standards across the year group.

Future Development

- To embed assessment procedures to ensure consistency across the school.
- To offer more opportunities for moderation.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored regularly for updates by the RSE subject leader and will be reviewed every 2 years by the Governing Body. Parents will be consulted before any proposed changes.

Reviewed:

Next Review: