



THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL  
OF ST. SAVIOUR AND ST. MARY OVERIE

# RE Policy

## **RE POLICY**

### **AIMS:**

RE must encourage children to understand the nature of faith, belief and the religious experience, with particular reference to the Christian faith. RE must encourage children in their spiritual exploration of life and in their personal quest. All children must have equal right and opportunity to develop their own spirituality and experience the spiritual aspects of life.

Cathedral School has a clearly stated Equal Opportunities Policy:

We recognize that all pupils have the right to equal access to all resources and knowledge under appropriate supervision. Teachers will differentiate where appropriate and this will be shown in their planning.

In addition to this the school is also committed to becoming a Rights Respecting School as defined by UNICEF. Article 14 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that:

“Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights of parents to give their children guidance about this right.

Cathedral School will endeavour to ensure that all learners develop the skills and attitudes necessary to enjoy this right.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To help pupils develop knowledge and understanding of the key ideas and beliefs of those religions which are found in contemporary British society, specifically Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism, through the Southwark Diocesan Scheme of Work.
- To introduce pupils to the story and mission of Jesus, and His continuing impact on the world.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to hear about significant and people of faith and consider how faith impacts on their lives.
- To investigate and consider the major features of Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam and understand similarities and differences between these faiths.
- To give pupils an understanding of how the appropriate use of scripture can enrich their own lives and religious experience.
- To encourage and allow for a reflective attitude to life and to elicit a response through feelings of awe, wonder, joy and mystery.
- To understand role of important festivals and celebrations.
- To become acquainted with religious artefacts and their uses.
- To explore and experience the religious/spiritual life of the local community, and examine religious locations.

### **TIME ALLOWANCE**

RE is taught for an hour a week at Key Stages One and Two, throughout the school year.

Foundation Stage follows the Southwark Diocesan Scheme for their medium term planning to promote Knowledge and Understanding of the World and to develop knowledge of Cultures and

Beliefs. Reception follows these headings but relates them to the SDBE scheme to fit in with the rest of the school.

## **SKILLS**

- Children depend for their religious understanding on the following skills:
- asking relevant questions
- knowing how to source religious information, and what constitutes religious evidence.
- the ability to draw meaning from creative expression
- ability to suggest meaning for religious actions and texts.
- ability to reflect on feelings, relationships, experience, beliefs, practices and ultimate question.
- empathetic understanding
- debate and evaluation skills when handling religious issues.
- connect individual, community and global issues.
- identify key religious values and their interplay with secular values.
- explain ritual and concepts
- identify and express matters of deep concern and conviction.
- respond appropriately through a variety of media.
- consider shared values and motivations within a faith group.

## **ATTITUDES**

- Understanding the importance of commitment to a set of values.
- willingness to develop a positive approach to life.
- ability to live without certainty.
- listening without prejudice.
- consideration and respect for alternative views.
- being aware of self-worth and value, together with capacity to discern the personal relevance of:
  - religious questions.
  - developing curiosity.
  - being prepared to question and reconsider existing views.
  - Developing the ability to reflect and explore the great issues of life.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Assessments will be levelled according to the National Curriculum National Guidelines for Assessing RE, of which each class has been given a copy.

Assessments should be designed to show achievement in both AT 1 (Learning about Religion) and AT2 (Learning from Religion). There is a portfolio of work samples available in the staffroom as well as a folder of model leveled pieces of work from the QCA website to support teachers in assessing levels of achievement. There is also a folder on the server for each class. This is to contain video and photo evidence of children's learning and progress.