

Subject Story: Religious Education

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Friendship.**

- We support the diocese and utilise their planning. This creates a sense of community with other schools within the diocese.
- Staff draw upon the expertise of the professionals within the diocese and borrow teaching materials and resources where necessary.
- Spinnaker support teaching and learning of RE through planned sessions for years 5&6.

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Responsibility.**

- Responsibility is manifested throughout the teaching and learning within RE.
- Awareness and acceptance of other religions and beliefs is viewed as a responsibility we all hold.
- Children demonstrate responsibility through looking after their book and paying close attention to presentation of their work.
- Teachers share the responsibility for delivering high-quality RE.

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Honesty.**

- Children's honest viewpoints and contributions are valued within RE lessons. These help the teacher to elicit each child's understanding and guide the teacher to adapt and tailor learning provision within the unit.
- Children showcase their learning from the subject through their actions and this helps teachers to form accurate judgements about each child's learning.

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Love.**

- Learning about and through Christianity, and other religions, helps to shape each individuals' morals and values. This is a key element within RE.
- Children show awe and wonder of God's magnificent world and learn to value every precious individual.
- Teachers spark excitement through their teaching and create a love of learning for the subject which is displayed in children's levels of engagement and outcomes.

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Courage.**

- The RE curriculum promotes progression through carefully mapped out knowledge and skills. This gives the children courage and confidence to be the best learners they can be by helping them to acquire the knowledge needed in order to move onto subsequent learning.
- Children are courageous and think about things in new ways, deepening their learning.

In our RE curriculum you will see our value of **Respect.**

- Children demonstrate respect for their own and others' beliefs.
- Children explore Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism and this reflects the school's religious demographic. Sikhi and Humanism are explored too.
- The school works hard to ensure that children across all religions are represented. This promotes high levels of respect across the school community.



Children at St. Martin's say this about RE:

"We have an RE exercise book so everyone knows what our ideas were in RE, otherwise they wouldn't be able to know our sentences or what we have been learning" – Year 1.

"We always show nice stuff to God and in RE we learn about what happened when Jesus was around, and everyone was happy" – Year 2.

"RE is about respecting what God gave us and learning about the past. We show respect in RE" – Year 4.

"RE helps me grow so I can tell my great grandchildren nice stuff that happened in the past. They can then tell their great grandchildren" – Year 5.



If you were to walk into a RE lesson at St. Martin's you would see:

- Mindful vocabulary related to the religion and practices being taught e.g. "most/some Christians believe that..."
- Use of artefacts to support teaching and learning; hands-on and practical learning experiences.
- Children articulating their viewpoints and opinions in a supportive learning environment.
- Reference to the school's vision and values to help children make connections with their learning.
- Tailored provision for those requiring additional support and challenge.
- Moments to reflect and consider how the key learning will influence themselves and their actions.
- All children encouraged to experience the fullness of life and appreciate the awe and wonder in the theme or topic being explored.
- Learning scrapbooks and display boards are used to reflect and show evidence of whole class RE learning.

In our RE curriculum you will see children learning through **exciting, engaging learning experiences which develop their 'cultural capital'**.

- Children experience events outside their daily lives, for example, visiting places of worship such as Woking Mosque.
- Children are exposed to a variety of different beliefs and cultures, and this is enhanced through strong links with the church and visitors sharing their beliefs and experiences in line with the agreed learning content.

Our agreed consistencies for RE are:

- Each child has an RE book from Year 1 upwards as well as some classes making use of "Learning Scrapbooks".
- Follow the new Diocesan planning.
- Start each half term with a circle time exploring the school's Christian value.
- Make use of artefacts to support learning whenever possible.
- Collaborate with Spinnaker to deliver RE.
- Include a visit to a place of worship / invite a visitor of faith where possible.



In our RE curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **work with resilience – strive**.

- Children explore the theme of resilience in RE lessons.
- Through the teachings of the Bible and exploring events throughout Jesus' life, children can make comparisons to their own life and consequently consider their actions and choices.
- Teachers promote a growth mindset and endeavour to empower children to achieve.

In our RE curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **dream big - aspire**.

- Within RE, children are taught to reflect on what they have learnt and what learning they take away from each session. This learning helps to shape the attributes of the children and helps them to aspire to be the best they can be.
- Teachers guide children as they go into the wider world and add to its richness through the gifts and skills they have to share.

In our RE curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **flourish - succeed**.

- Within RE, children achieve well. Children demonstrate success in this subject area through the work that they produce.
- Children demonstrate success by initiating events and discussions inspired by the learning they have encountered in the classroom.
- Children demonstrate success by living out our school vision and values.

In our RE curriculum you will see that we value **inclusion and diversity**.

- Children are taught about Christianity but also other beliefs including Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhi, Humanism and Buddhism.
- Children are taught to respect and value others' beliefs.
- As a school, we are distinctively Christian but inclusive of all faiths. Teaching within RE is tailored to the strengths and needs of all, including those requiring alternative resources or additional support.



In our RE curriculum you will see how we develop our children's language, **including subject specific and technical vocabulary**.

- Specific vocabulary linked to the learning content is detailed within the diocese planning and guidance.
- The key vocabulary is progressive, in line with the increasing expectations and learning experiences set out for the children at St. Martin's.

British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Learning (SMSC) in RE:

Spiritual – Children have time to investigate and describe how sources of inspiration and influence make a difference to themselves and others, shaping their own self-discovery. The school's values promote meaning, purpose and direction for individuals and help build connections with others.

Moral – Through teaching and learning within RE, children investigate moral and ethical issues. Staff help children to learn about religion, but most importantly give consideration to what they can learn and take away themselves from the content covered to help shape their own beliefs, values and morals.

Social (inc British Values) – Children are taught and encouraged to appreciate Christianity, other faiths and one another's viewpoints. This supports the British Values of 'respect' and 'tolerance'.

Cultural – Diversity is celebrated through exploring beliefs and special occasions within other religions. This aids understanding and acceptance of a diverse range of beliefs. In addition to this, diversity is promoted and children are represented through the resources used within lessons.

Children achieve well in this subject. Highlights of **outcomes** in RE for last academic year are:

- In KS2, 90% of children met or exceeded end of year expectations within RE. 19% of children were assessed as working at a greater depth.
- In KS1, 86% of children met or exceeded end of year expectations within RE. 17% of children were assessed as working at a greater depth.
- 95% of children in EYFS (Area: People, Culture and Communities) met or exceeded the expected standard in People, Culture and Communities.



Successes in 2024 - 2025

- Continued successful implementation of the new RE curriculum in all year groups with very good outcomes for children.
- Interactions between St. Martin's Church and Spinnaker have strengthened with assemblies and RE days.
- Further refinement of our collective worship practices, with specific focus on embedding the "5 Ps". Excellent, diverse collective worship schedule delivered during the school week.

Priorities for 2025 - 2026

- To further strengthen the theological underpinning of the school's Christian vision so that it can be articulated by children and staff.
- To improve the provision of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development so that pupils have an enriched experience of each element and therefore make the strongest possible progress.