



Religious Education

Intent, Implementation and Impact statement

Intent

At Weare Academy CofE First School, the intent of our Religious Education (RE) curriculum is to foster an inclusive environment that aligns with our mission to instil a lifelong love for learning. We aim to empower our pupils to develop into aspirational and resilient individuals who are kind, respectful, and responsible members of society. Our RE curriculum, underpinned by the Understanding Christianity scheme and our agreed local syllabus (Awareness, Mystery and Value), supports this by:

- **Instilling Curiosity:** Encouraging pupils to be curious about themselves, others, and the world, while exploring diverse religions and worldviews.
- **Developing Critical Thinking:** Helping pupils to think critically about complex questions regarding faith, morality, and the human experience.
- **Promoting Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural Development:** Facilitating self-reflection alongside an understanding of different beliefs, enhancing their sense of identity and belonging. This enables children not just learn about religion but also learn from it.
- **Fostering Community Integration:** Preparing pupils for life in modern Britain, equipping them with knowledge and skills to engage positively within a diverse society, promoting tolerance and respect.

Implementation

Our approach to implementing this intent reflects our commitment to high-quality education in a safe and inclusive environment rooted in Christian values. Key strategies include:

- **Curriculum Design:** Our RE curriculum, structured around the Understanding Christianity scheme and our agreed local syllabus, aligns with national guidance and provides clear and progressive learning objectives, encompassing a broad range of topics focused on both knowledge and skills.
- **Pedagogical Approaches:** Teachers employ diverse pedagogical techniques that promote active engagement, including group discussions, debates, and project-based learning, fostering exploration of religious concepts and their implications in children's lives.
- **Use of Resources:** We utilise a range of resources, including the Understanding Christianity materials, artefacts, literature, religious texts, visits to places of worship, and guest speakers from various faith communities, enriching the learning experience in alignment with our school's values.
- **Ongoing Assessment:** Formative assessments are used throughout the academic year to monitor pupil progress and understanding, ensuring tailored support that addresses areas requiring further development, aligned with the Understanding Christianity objectives.

Impact

The impact of our Religious Education programme is evident in several key areas, reflecting our school mission and values:

- **Positive Student Attitudes:** Pupils exhibit a strong interest in and respect for diverse beliefs, demonstrating their kindness and respectfulness as they engage in discussions about faith, morality, spirituality and the themes presented in Understanding Christianity and our agreed local syllabus..
- **Academic Achievement:** Our pupils achieve excellent outcomes in RE assessments, showcasing their deep understanding of both Christian teachings and broader religious concepts, as supported by the Understanding Christianity framework.
- **Enhanced Community Cohesion:** Through our RE curriculum, pupils engage in community projects and interfaith dialogues, fostering connections that support our vision of creating a safe and inclusive environment, highlighted by their learning through our RE curriculum.
- **Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural Development:** Our pupils emerge from our First school with a nuanced understanding of their beliefs and those of others, demonstrating the qualities of aspirational and resilient individuals, well-prepared to navigate a multi-faith society, informed by their insights into Christian teaching and practice.

In summary, the outstanding intent, implementation, and impact of our Religious Education curriculum, enriched by the Understanding Christianity and our agreed local syllabus, not only fulfil statutory requirements but also reflect our commitment to nurturing students who are curious and empowered to achieve their full potential in a diverse world.