



Holy Trinity CE (VA) Primary School

**Policy name: Religion and World Views
Policy**

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Governor committee: n/a

Approved by: Headteacher

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INTRODUCTION

At Holy Trinity Church of England VA Primary School, Religion and World Views (RWV) is rooted in our Christian vision: “Let’s Grow Together”, inspired by the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13). This vision shapes our approach to education, nurturing every child so that they may flourish spiritually, morally, socially and academically, enabling them to grow in wisdom, hope and understanding.

In line with the Church of England Vision for Education and the SIAMS Inspection Framework, RWV plays a central role in enabling pupils to engage deeply with faith, belief and meaning. Through high-quality RWV, pupils are supported to:

- Develop wisdom, knowledge and skills through disciplined enquiry**
- Understand how beliefs influence individuals and communities**
- Grow in dignity and respect for themselves and others**
- Live well together in a diverse and changing world**

As a voluntary aided Church of England school, the governing body determines the nature of Religion and World Views in accordance with the school’s Trust Deed. Christianity is the foundation of our school life and curriculum and is taught as a living, diverse faith. Religion and World Views also affirms and respects pupils and families of other faiths and of none, supporting the SIAMS expectation that education enables pupils to flourish as unique individuals made in the image of God.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Religion and World Views is a statutory subject for all pupils registered at the school, including those in the Early Years Foundation Stage, unless withdrawn by parents.

As a Church of England VA school:

- Religion and World Views is taught in accordance with the school’s Trust Deed**
- Christianity is the majority religion studied at every key stage**
- The curriculum reflects diocesan guidance and the expectations of the SIAMS Inspection Framework**

The school follows:

- Understanding Christianity as the core approach for teaching Christianity**
- The Diocesan Syllabus for Religion and World Views for the teaching of other religions**

Religion and World Views has equal status with other foundation subjects and plays a key role in demonstrating the school's Christian vision in action, a core focus of SIAMS inspection.

AIMS OF RELIGION AND WORLD VIEWS

Through Religion and World Views, we aim to ensure that all pupils:

- **Develop a secure and coherent understanding of Christian belief and practice**
- **Engage in meaningful enquiry into Judaism, Islam and Hinduism**
- **Make connections between beliefs, values and lived experience**
- **Are able to reflect, question and express ideas with confidence and respect**
- **Grow in empathy, dignity and understanding of others**

These aims directly support SIAMS expectations that pupils develop theologically informed, respectful and reflective understanding of faith and belief.

CONTRIBUTION OF RELIGION AND WORLDVIEWS TO THE WIDER CURRICULUM

Religion and World Views makes a significant contribution to pupils':

- **Spiritual development through opportunities for reflection, awe, wonder and meaning-making**
- **Moral development through engagement with ethical questions, justice, forgiveness and responsibility**
- **Social development through dialogue, listening and shared enquiry**
- **Cultural development through encountering diverse beliefs, traditions and practices**

RW supports British Values and equips pupils to live well and grow together, meeting SIAMS expectations that the curriculum actively promotes hope, aspiration and responsible citizenship.

INCLUSION, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Religion and World Views at Holy Trinity is inclusive and accessible to all pupils. We value every child as unique and precious, created in the image of God, and aim to ensure that Religion and World Views reflects this belief in practice.

Religion and World Views explicitly supports and aligns with the school's SEND Policy and Equality Policy. Teaching and learning in Religion and World Views are designed to:

- **Promote equality of opportunity for all pupils**
- **Reflect diversity within religions and wider society**
- **Challenge discrimination, stereotyping and prejudice**
- **Respect pupils' own beliefs, experiences and backgrounds**

Teaching is adapted to meet the needs of all learners, including pupils with SEND, through:

- **Appropriate use of language, scaffolding and visual support**
- **Multi-sensory, creative and practical approaches**
- **Opportunities for discussion, reflection and non-written responses**
- **Flexible outcomes that value personal reflection and engagement**

We recognise that pupils may express spiritual understanding in different ways and that limitations in literacy or cognition do not limit a child's capacity for spiritual or religious insight.

RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from Religious Education, in whole or in part. The school encourages parents to discuss any concerns with the headteacher before making a decision. Alternative provision will be made where a pupil is withdrawn.

TIME ALLOCATION

The school meets national and diocesan expectations for curriculum time devoted to Religion and World Views:

- **Early Years Foundation Stage: RWV taught flexibly through Understanding the World and PSED**
- **Key Stage 1: Approximately 36 hours per year**
- **Key Stage 2: Approximately 45 hours per year**

Religion and World Views is taught as a discrete subject and is separate from collective worship.

CURRICULUM CONTENT AND COVERAGE

Christianity

Christianity is taught in every year group and makes up at least 50% of Religion and World Views teaching time. Teaching is structured around the Understanding Christianity approach, focusing on:

- **Making sense of biblical texts**
- **Understanding the impact of belief on Christians**
- **Making connections between belief, teaching and pupils' own lives.**

In addition to Christianity, pupils study the following religions in depth:

- **Judaism**
- **Islam**
- **Hinduism**

These religions are taught in a way that is accurate, respectful and rooted in lived experience. Teaching emphasises both similarities and differences in beliefs and practices, supporting pupils in developing understanding, empathy and respect.

Non-religious worldviews may be referenced where appropriate to support inclusive discussion and reflection, in line with diocesan guidance.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Religion and World Views is planned on a two-year rolling programme to accommodate mixed-age classes. Planning ensures clear progression in knowledge, skills and understanding.

- **EYFS planning aligns with the Early Learning Goals (1 Year programme of study)**
- **KS1 and KS2 planning follows diocesan guidance and Understanding Christianity units (NATRE is also used to help with planning)**
- **Teachers may use theme days, focus weeks or visits to enrich learning, provided statutory time requirements are met.**

Religion and World Views is taught using a variety of approaches, including:

- **Enquiry-based learning**

- **Discussion and debate**
- **Story, drama and art**
- **Use of artefacts and visitors**
- **Visits to places of worship**

Lessons encourage pupils to think deeply, ask questions and reflect respectfully.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in Religion and World Views is ongoing and formative, and takes place:

- **Within each lesson, through questioning, discussion, observation and pupil responses**
- **At the end of each unit of work, against planned learning outcomes**

Assessment is used to inform next steps in teaching and to ensure appropriate challenge and support for all pupils. Pupils' attainment is judged using age-related expectations. Evidence may include written work, artwork, photographs, oral contributions and reflective responses. Progress in Religion and World Views is monitored by the subject leader and reported to parents in line with the school's assessment and reporting procedures.

REFLECTION AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Opportunities for reflection, stillness and spiritual development are woven into daily school life and Religion and World Views lessons, rather than being located in designated reflective areas.

Teachers plan purposeful moments for pupils to:

- **Pause, think and reflect**
- **Engage with big questions**
- **Consider personal responses to belief and values**

IMPACT OF RELIGION AND WORLDVIEWS

The impact of Religion and Worldviews at Holy Trinity Church of England VA Primary School is evident in pupils' enjoyment, engagement and attitudes towards learning about faith and belief.

Pupil voice activities, including structured discussions, questionnaires and informal conversations, are used regularly to gather pupils' views and experiences of Religion and World Views. These show that:

- **Pupils enjoy Religion and World Views lessons and speak positively about their learning**
- **Pupils describe feeling calm, relaxed and safe during RWV lessons, enabling thoughtful reflection and discussion**
- **Pupils understand that RWV is taught to help them make sense of the wider world and the beliefs of others**
- **Pupils feel confident to engage in respectful conversations with people of different religions and worldviews**

Through enquiry-based learning and opportunities for reflection, pupils develop the ability to listen carefully, express ideas sensitively and show dignity and respect towards others. This demonstrates the school's Christian vision, Let's Grow Together, in action, as pupils grow in understanding, empathy and wisdom.

The impact of Religion and World Views is monitored by the subject leader through pupil voice, lesson observations, work scrutiny and discussions with staff, ensuring that the subject continues to support pupil flourishing and meets the expectations of the SIAMS Inspection Framework.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The subject lead for Religion and World Views a crucial role in ensuring high-quality teaching across the school by providing staff with regular, relevant, and well-designed CPD. Through professional development, the subject lead equips teachers with secure subject knowledge, clarity about curriculum expectations, and confidence in addressing a diverse range of religious and non-religious world views. This training helps staff develop accurate, balanced, and inclusive approaches to RWV, ensuring pupils encounter a rich and meaningful curriculum. Ongoing CPD also supports consistency in teaching, strengthens progression across year groups, and ensures that RWV reflects current guidance, statutory requirements, and best practice from the Leeds & York syllabus.

The Religion policy will be reviewed regularly by the governing body in line with statutory and SIAMS expectations.

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