



## North Wolds Federation

### Religious Education Policy

September 2018

**With our Christian values at the centre, we develop our children educationally, emotionally and spiritually to enable them to achieve their dreams and goals. Working our local community we educate the whole child. We are inclusive and prepare our pupils to be good citizens in today's diverse society. We prepare our children for a brighter tomorrow.**

**'Everything is possible for one who believes' Mark 9:23**

#### Introduction

Religious Education is one of the subjects of the National Curriculum. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of the Religious Education taught in school. The school policy for Religious Education reflects the consensus of the whole staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.

The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the whole teaching staff.

#### Aims and Objectives of Religious Education

RE will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are that:

- the basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll;
- the content of RE shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;
- the RE which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Lincolnshire LEA
- it will provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve;
- it promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

#### Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, our aims in RE are:

- to enable each child to explore our shared human experience and the questions of meaning and purpose which arise from our experiences;
- to enable pupils to know and understand the beliefs and practices of some of the great religions of the world, particularly those represented in Lincolnshire and the UK. Among these religions, Christianity has a particular place, and is taught in each year of the primary phase.
- to promote respect, sensitivity and cultural awareness by teaching about the religions represented in the region and the country;
- to provide children with opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- to develop the ability of pupils to think about, and develop for themselves, beliefs and values by which they can live through studying concepts like celebration, the sacred, authority, religious belief and lifestyle, and through exploring the fundamental questions of life.

#### Context

- The context of RE at our Federation is that we are working to the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus.
- We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We welcome the diversity, and we are sensitive to the home background of each child. We are glad to have the active support of faith communities in RE in the County and locally.
- We recognise the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and the leading role which the RE curriculum plays in some of these areas.

### Time Allocation for Religious Education

In order to deliver the aims and objectives of the syllabus, the Standing Advisory Conference for Religious Education (SACRE) recommends a minimum allocation of 5% of curriculum time for RE. We conform to the recommendation of 36 hours per year for RE at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two. RE is a core subject of the curriculum for all pupils. Curriculum time for RE does not include collective worship, even where the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work.

### Implementation

RE in both keys stages is based on the termly topics/themes being taught in the classes where the RE Units for the Foundation stage, Key Stages 1 and 2 are taught are linked to these. All the units are derived from the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus and link into the IPC units wherever possible. Understanding Christianity is used to shape the teaching of Christianity within the framework of the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus.

Our policy is to use RE in art, drama, talking activities, invite speakers and to go on appropriate visits to places of worship. We also use a multi-media approach to enhance our understanding and knowledge of RE. Cross-curricular work is encouraged, in line with the school's policy on teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of teaching to the attainment targets of the Agreed Syllabus in a balanced way. A termly educational learning work around school enhances the teachers' vision of our Christian ethos.

### Resources

Resources are stored in named boxes appropriate to each religion in the store cupboard near the Martins' classroom and in the shared area at Nettleton. All boxes are labelled and contain a list of the resources within them. Any resources borrowed should be returned to the appropriate box. The religion section in the library has a wide variety of books (200 – 290).

### Visits to Places of Worship

Teachers use multi-media resources to help the children to understand other cultures and religious places of worship. We are able to visit four different Christian churches locally, where clergy and members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in RE. Speakers from different religions are invited into school when appropriate to a unit being followed. We are also able to arrange visits to places of worship and we have a rolling programme of visits / visitors for each year group for each year.

### Equal Opportunities

Whole school policy with regard to special needs and differentiation applies to RE. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational 'ability'.

We note the rights of parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff. Any questions from parents about withdrawals will be referred to the head teacher.

### Assessment

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in RE to parents, as required by law. Appropriate information will be passed on to new schools on the transfer of a child if it is requested. In KS1 and 2, we make specific, individual, accurate comments on each child's progress in RE in the end of year reports, based on regular monitoring of work with regard to the attainment targets of the Agreed Syllabus.

### Monitoring and Review

We intend that this policy should operate until the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus (2018) is reviewed by the LEA, or until the school's curriculum framework has changed. To ensure that the policy and the scheme of work is appropriate, the RE leader will be given time during each school year to observe, monitor and evaluate the RE being carried out by teachers in checking termly planning and looking at examples of children's work.

**Signed: Head teacher**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: Chair of Governors

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Date

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