

# ST PETER'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Registered in England and Wales  
Company number 07939655

## Religious Education Policy

*St Peter's school promotes Christian values and fosters an environment of spirituality, creativity and respect where everyone is valued and each child can achieve their full potential.*

### **The Legal Position**

The legal requirements concerning the provision of Religious Education and an Agreed Syllabus flow, principally, from the Education Act 1996 (S. 375), the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (SS. 69 and 71 and Schedule 19) and the Education Act 2002 (S. 80). The school, in accordance with its Trust Deed, provides religious education for all pupils registered at the school. Religious Education at St Peter's CE Primary is based on the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2015 – 2020.

### **Aims of Religious Education**

Religious education aims to help pupils to:

- Understand the nature, role and influence of different religions, traditions, beliefs and lifestyles in the world;
- Pursue personal quest for meaning, purpose and value;
- Formulate reasoned opinions / arguments in relationship to controversial issues and truth claims;
- Develop understanding of and respect for different beliefs and lifestyles.

The purpose of religious education does not include any attempt to alter a child's beliefs. Indeed, reflecting the school's mission statement, our religious education programme is not designed 'to convert pupils or urge a particular religion or religious belief on pupils' (DFE circular 1/94 paragraph 32).

### **Planning and Delivery**

The religious education curriculum is based on two key aspects of learning laid down in the locally agreed syllabus:

- Learning about religion:
  - a) Beliefs and teachings                      what people believe
  - b) Practices and lifestyles                    what people do
  - c) Expression and language                how people express themselves
- Learning from religion
  - a) Identity and experience                    making sense of who we are
  - b) Meaning and purpose                      making sense of life

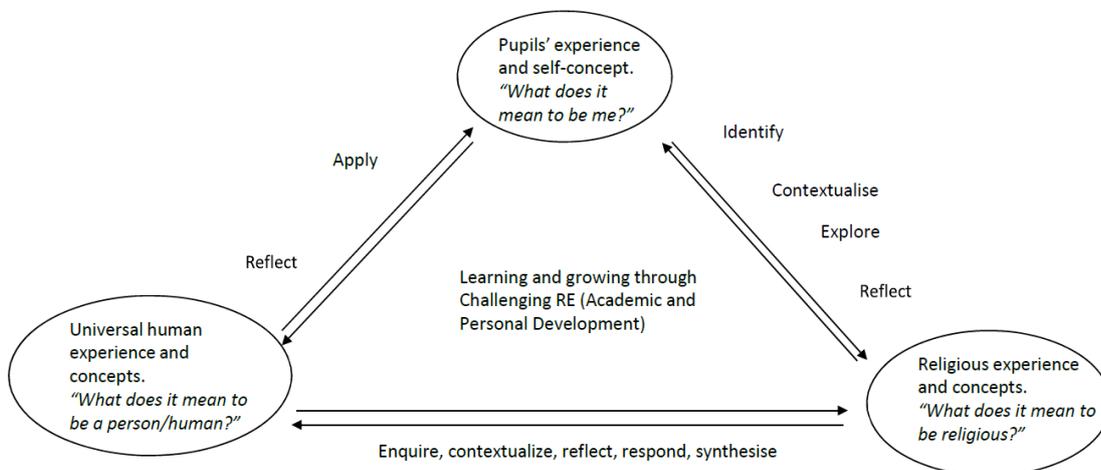
c) Values and commitments                      making sense of right and wrong

Teachers will use these strands when planning their lessons. Pupils will study predominantly Christianity, and aspects of Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. They will explore these in relation to a number of key questions as specified in the syllabus in each key stage.

### Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Learning in RE involves helping pupils make sense of life. Learning about religions, beliefs and lifestyles is the vehicle through which they develop their understanding of themselves, others and the world. Pupils will grow to recognise how people are different from one another and what they all hold in common (what is referred to as ‘identity-in-difference’), so that through their exploration of religions and beliefs they will develop their own understanding of what it means to be human, and foster their own sense of meaning, purpose and values.

The model below incorporates skills, development and progression. The skills running clockwise along the sides of the triangle are described for each key stage to help teachers plan challenging learning.



In their planning, teachers can start anywhere on the model, although KS1 is most likely to start with the pupils’ own experience and KS2 with the religious experience

At St Peter’s CE Primary we have a two year rolling programme which covers the areas defined in the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. Schemes of work are drawn from the Diocesan Board of Education and Discovery RE.

A variety of resources, styles, and techniques will be used as appropriate.

Assessment in RE is statutory at KS2 and required at KS1 and is based on the two key aspects: Learning about religion and learning from religion. Assessment is based on the learning outcomes and each child, at the end of the year will be judged as being below, at or above expectations.

### Monitoring RE

The RE Co-ordinator monitors RE by scrutinising planning, books, observations and assessments. The RE Governor meets with the RE Co-ordinator three times a year and may also carry out monitoring activities as detailed above. The implementation of RE and this policy is discussed at each Foundation Governors meeting (6 times a year).

## **Withdrawal from religious education**

Parents may withdrawal their children from all or any part of religious education and teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers will feel comfortable with the type of religious education being taught at this school. Parents who wish to withdraw their children must provide written notification to the governors to this effect.

Policy adopted:

Review date:

Signed Head teacher

Chair of Governors