



**Teversham Church of England
Primary School**

Religious Education policy

DATE ADOPTED: 20 November 2023
REVIEW DATE: November 2026

Inspire Believe Achieve

Inspired by God's love for us, we seek to be a loving, serving, learning community in which our belief that all people should be valued for who they are in God's image creates a culture where all can explore, discover, flourish and therefore achieve their best.

"We love because God first loved us" 1 John 4:19

At Teversham Primary School we believe that Religious Education has a vital part to play in the development of children of primary age. This is due to the fact that it can make a substantial contribution to the general, personal and social development of every child which is in line with the overall aims of the school.

We understand that RE is concerned with:

- ◆ developing knowledge, understanding and awareness of Christianity and other principal religions and world views;
- ◆ fostering a sense of awe and wonder;
- ◆ encouraging respect for those holding different beliefs;
- ◆ promoting spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development;
- ◆ developing own personal views.

Religious Education has a part to play in helping children to learn about the rich ethnic and cultural diversity found in this school, country and the wider world.

- Our R.E. curriculum enables pupils to appreciate their own beliefs, cultures and values, helping them to develop a clear understanding of the significance of religion in their own life, the local area, as well as in the world today.
- We aim for children to be able to hold a balanced and well-informed conversation about religion and belief. We do this by exploring and asking questions, visiting places of worship and speaking to people from different faiths.
- We focus on the promotion of each pupils' self-worth, enabling them to reflect on their uniqueness as human beings, to share their feelings and emotions with others and to appreciate the importance of forming and maintaining positive relationships.
- Each year the children learn about both Christianity and a different religion within the world that we live. This helps to promote religious understanding and respect, and to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping.

Aims and Objectives:

Religious Education in our school is provided under the terms of the Cambridgeshire Agreed Syllabus 2023.

The aims and objectives are for all pupils to:

- to develop religious literacy;
- to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions and world views represented locally, nationally, and globally;
- to develop an understanding of the influence of the beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies, and cultures;
- to develop attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own;

- to develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious issues, with reference to the principal religions and world views represented locally, nationally, and globally

Religions and worldviews deal with some of the most profound and difficult questions in human life, questions such as:

- What is the purpose of life?
- How should people treat each other?
- How do we explain and cope with death and suffering?

Religions and worldviews approach these issues in complex ways, in ways of life, culture and action, as well as ritual, tradition, story, symbol and belief. RE must take account of this depth and complexity, helping pupils to an understanding appropriate to their age and aptitude.

To do this RE needs to develop pupils' skills:

- to read fluently;
- to enable them to ask questions;
- to discover information, to approach new material with empathy;
- to reflect on their learning. Pupils should not only acquire knowledge but also be able to use their knowledge to understand their world, build community, and develop their personal position.

Throughout the RE curriculum pupils should be encouraged to **explore** religions and worldviews, **engage** with their knowledge, and **reflect** on their learning and their lives.

Planning

Throughout Key Stage 1 and 2, all pupils will have access to all the study units found in the Cambridgeshire Agreed Syllabus 2023. Provision for this is made through weekly RE lessons and our school 'Encounter Days.' Children will learn through various approaches such as studying ways of life, culture and action, as well as rituals, traditions, stories, symbols and beliefs.

In line with the legal requirements the RE teaching will focus the majority of time to content relating to Christianity. Judaism will be the additional faith to be studied at Key Stage 1. Children will study all major world faiths at Key Stage 2.

It is expected that all pupils will visit some local churches and other places of worship during their time at school. The conduct of these trips will be in compliance with LA guidelines on school visits.

Assessment

Children are assessed termly against the two Progression Targets for RE outlined in the 2023 Agreed Syllabus.

These targets set out the knowledge, skills and understanding that pupils of different abilities and maturities are expected to have by the end of the key stage.

PT1 – Knowledge and understanding of religion and worldviews

Enquiring into, investigating and understanding religions and beliefs. This includes thinking about and interpreting religious beliefs, teachings, sources, practices, ways of life, and ways of expressing meaning with reference to the specific beliefs and religions studied.

PT2 – Responding to religion and worldviews

Questioning, exploring, reflecting upon and interpreting human experience in the light of religions and beliefs studied. This includes communicating reflections, responses and evaluations about questions of identity, belonging, diversity, meaning, purpose, truth, values, and commitments making increasingly insightful links to the specific religions studied.

Resources

The school has a range of varied resources for R.E. which are held centrally. These include Faith artefact boxes, books and DVD's.

Equal Opportunities

Every child is entitled to be taught Religious Education regardless of their age, culture, gender, background or special need or disability. RE develops a balanced view of the multi-cultural society which we live in without compromising the faith, non-faith or cultural background of any pupil.

Right of withdrawal

The school will respect the legal right of parents to withdraw their child from R.E. Parents should inform the head teacher if they wish to exercise this right. Alternative arrangements will be made to ensure the welfare of these children during the time when R.E. is taught.

Adopted: 20th November 2023

Date of next review: November 2026

After approval by the Curriculum Committee of the Governing Body, this policy will be electronically signed by Rev. Nick Moir, Chair of Governors