##

**RE Policy**

**St Paul’s Catholic Primary School**

**Reviewed: December 2016 (K Stevenson)**

**Review due: December 2018**

St Paul’s Catholic Primary School’s Mission Statement is to live in faith, walk in hope and grow in love.  Through these actions we can then, work together, learn together, pray together, we are one.

Be guided by God in all actions; in loving, in learning, in living.

*“Catholics believe that religious education is not one subject amongst many, but the foundation of the entire education process. The beliefs and values it communicates should inspire and unify every aspect of school life.”*

 *(Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales 1988)*

At St. Paul’s we are committed to providing our pupils with the opportunity to develop their relationship with God through the Catholic faith in an environment in which personal fulfilment, responsible citizenship and spiritual growth are fostered.

 Our aim at St Paul’s is to create a Christian community where the Gospel values are evident:

* We will strive to be living witnesses of Christ’s teaching within the world community and offer a positive contribution to our local community.
* We will love our neighbour by being aware of and responsive to human need.

We teach our children to be responsive to the needs of others through our class masses, assemblies, daily classroom prayer, acts of worship and class liturgies.

 To help pupils to know and appreciate the spiritual and religious dimension of life as expressed in the Catholic faith tradition we endeavour to;

* teach the children to pray reverently and respectfully and provide opportunities for worship;
* help the children to experience, understand, celebrate and live their faith in ways suited to their spiritual maturity;
* help the children to develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
* help the children to understand the relationship between spiritual growth and the Church’s sacramental life as expressed in sign and symbol, and then to support the pupils to participate in the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and the Eucharist, in collaboration with the home and parish;
* give prominence to the physical signs of our faith around school for our community to reflect upon.

In order for our school family to have life in all its fullness and glory, St Paul’s Primary School community will:

**WELCOME** - Warmly welcome everyone to our school as Jesus welcomes us to the family of God.

**WELFARE** - Love, value and respect each other as Jesus intended and reach out to those who need us everywhere, making God's world a better place.

**WORD** - Place the Word of God at the centre of all we do.

**WORSHIP** - Worship the Lord our God joyfully with all our hearts.

**WITNESS** - Be witnesses of a Loving God, who is at the heart of all we do, by creating a happy atmosphere, lasting friendships and wonderful memories.

Teaching

At St Paul’s, we use the published scheme God Matters as a resource to teach the curriculum alongside a number of other resources. God Matters is designed to ensure that pupils make progress in RE from reception to Year 6. The theological content and principles are linked to the National Curriculum Directory. It is supported by a clear approach to teaching and learning - characterised by the 3 E’s: Engage, Explore, Express. This is structured in a way which allows for deep learning and real engagement with the RE content. It is taught alongside our liturgical plan which reflects the calendar of the Church’s year. At St Paul’s we recognise all opportunities to deepen our faith in all areas of the curriculum.

We adopt a variety of teaching styles and the children are actively involved in their learning in order to develop curiosity, creativity and independent thought. We create opportunities for thought, prayer, stillness and silence.

Every day the children have times of prayer and worship. This takes place both inside and outside of the classroom and in school assemblies. Each class prepares a liturgy on a Thursday if not attending mass in church. We celebrate our significant festivals through attending Mass.

All children and staff are welcomed to a lunchtime ‘Rosary’ each October and May, this is run by a dedicated Teaching Assistant.

Equal Opportunities

We believe that all children are entitled to equal access to the R.E. curriculum. All the children are encouraged to express themselves according to their ability. We are aware of the various cultural, social, and ethnic backgrounds and are sensitive in our approach and the use of materials and resources.

Community responsibility

We recognise the significance of the example set by parents, teachers, priest, governors and all school staff to lead our children on their faith journey.

Assessment

Assessment in Religious Education is achieved by the use of marking, assessment tasks or activities, through discussions with individuals and by observations made in group situations. At the end of each topic, teachers use assessments of attainment and progress, in addition, three topics are assessed more formally throughout the year.

Where possible children should be involved in assessing their own work. This might include peer assessment.

Monitoring

Religious Education is monitored by the Head, Senior Leadership and RE Leader through:

* classroom observations.
* scrutiny of pupils’ RE books;
* display work throughout the school;
* Levelled / assessed work

**Management of RE**

**JOB TITLE RE Subject Leader**

**JOB PURPOSE**

To lead and manage RE within the school.

**RESPONSIBLE TO:**

The Headteacher and RE Governor.

**MAIN DUTIES**

To liaise closely with colleagues in order to:

* To be a role model and demonstrate good practice.
* Keep the written policy document up to date.
* Monitor standards in RE across the school through classroom observation, learning scrutiny, teachers’ planning, and discussion with pupils.
* Lead the teaching of RE by example and afford colleagues the opportunity to share in good practice. Lead professional development in RE in accordance with staff development needs and support and guide staff by encouraging the sharing of ideas.
* Be aware of developments within RE through attending courses provided by the Diocese.
* Submit regular feedback to staff and SLT.
* Work to maintain standards of previous canonical inspection.

Signed: ………………………………………………………………. Date:

(Chair of the Governing Body)

Signed: ………………………………………………………………. Date:

(Head Teacher)

**NB:**

This Policy was revised in **December 2016 by K Stevenson.**