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| **Purley Partnership Federation** |
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| **Purley Nursery School** | **Christ Church Primary School** |
| **Achieving and growing together** | **Nurturing lifelong learners with God’s guidance** |

**RE POLICY**

*Revised February 2020, to be reviewed February 2023*

Vision: Together inspiring excellence

Mission: Nurturing lifelong learners with God’s guidance

Values: **Love Courage Honesty Faith Forgiveness**

**Intent at Christ Church School**

Religious Education at Christ Church School aims to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of the present and the future.

As a church school it is our aim that children should leave Christ Church school with a clear understanding of Christian teachings and values. Children are encouraged to explore a personal quest for meaning, and opportunities are given to apply their understanding of Christianity to make reasoned and informed responses to life issues and moral choices.

Our curriculum is also designed so that children can develop knowledge and understanding of other principal religions especially those represented in the local and school community. The result is children are taught how to reflect on and communicate with others on issues of truth, belief and faith, and develop sensitivity and respect towards all people no matter what their beliefs.

The curriculum provides all children with the chance to be successful learners without being limited by literacy difficulties or other barriers to learning because RE learning is demonstrated through a range of media such as art, extended writing and drama.

**Intent at Purley Nursery School**

Religious Education at Purley Nursery School is not taught explicitly. Children are supported to explore and celebrate cultures and religions across their learning environment and within their local communities through ‘Understanding the World’ learning area of EYFS Early Years Profile (EYFSP). Children’s awareness of cultural and religious similarities and differences within their local environments are tracked and assessed. At the end of the Early Years, children are assessed across the Early Learning Goal for the aspect ‘People and Communities’ and identified as attaining emerging, expected, exceeding level to ascertain their knowledge and understanding in this area of learning.

At Purley Nursery School children are exposed to a wide range of resources to represent multi- cultural and religious diversity within our community. Children are exposed to activities and narratives to support their understanding of religious and cultural festivals celebrated worldwide. Examples of this include: Divali, Chinese New Year, Eid and Christmas. Practitioners identify faith association for each festival, through age appropriate narratives and imagery to support children’s understanding of the world.

**Implementation at Christ Church School**

**Teaching and Learning**

Teaching methods:

* Children will be taught RE in a way that is appropriate to their needs and level of understanding.
* Learning intentions, at least one AT1 (learning about religion) and one AT2 (learning from religion) in each lesson, will be shared with the class or groups and success criteria (expectations about outcomes) made clear.
* Linking current learning to previous learning is essential.
* Teachers will place emphasis on children’s spiritual development. Important skills developed during planned learning include: Reflection, empathy, communication and enquiry.
* Emotional attitudes developed during learning include: Respect, empathy sensitivity, open-mindedness and self-esteem.
* All children in Key Stage 2 have a Reflective journal for RE. Children’s reflections and RE learning are recorded in these. Children in Key Stage 1 and FS Reception will not have an RE reflective journal. Instead, their recorded work will be kept in either individual RE folders or a class RE topic folder/book
* RE learning will be recorded in a range of forms appropriate to the learners and learning planned. Examples might include: photos with comments, reflections, art work, music, written work, videoed examples of drama, scribed comments, anecdotal evidence… etc.
* Visitors and visits to places of religious interest are encouraged as they give children a greater insight and understanding. Currently, we only offer visits to Christian places of worship. However, we welcome visitors from a range of different faith groups.
* RE teachings of a Christian perspective on the theme will be covered where possible/suitable in other areas of the curriculum.

**Time Allocation**

RE is taught for a minimum of 1 hour per week, which can be flexibly arranged. This does not have to be whole class teaching and, where appropriate, could be linked to other subjects. However, RE learning objectives will be made explicit when learning is linked to other subjects.

**Classroom environment and resources**

All classrooms are to have a prayer area to help develop the children’s questioning and thinking skills. This could also incorporate our 5 Christian Values; love, courage, honesty, faith and forgiveness.

Where appropriate, RE learning should be shared in the form of display. Such displays will include the outcomes of children’s RE learning.

Resources are routinely audited and purchases made to ensure the quality of resources available to support teaching and learning. Resources are stored in the resource room and in classrooms. Teachers are asked to inform the RE subject leader if they notice that there is a resource needed.

**Planned learning and Cross Curricular Links**

RE at Christ Church School is planned so that each year group studies Christianity and one other faith over the course of the year. This is with the exception of Reception classes where only Christianity is taught in RE, but where other faiths may be explored in line with children’s interests and in Year6 where the emphasis is placed on learning about the Christian faith across the world.

Medium term plans are adapted from the Southwark Diocesan Schemes of Work. These are written and monitored by the RE subject leader and class teachers. Adaptations are made as appropriate by both the RE subject leader and by class teachers. When Southwark Diocese created this scheme of work, the plans were reviewed and approved by member leaders/representatives of the relevant faith communities.

Where RE learning is enhanced by a cross curricular link, it is linked to other subjects. If a cross curricular link is not appropriate RE will be taught discretely.

**Assessment**

Assessment is an integral part of RE to inform planning and teaching and learning. Class teachers use success criteria, so children know where they are and where they need to go next in their learning. Such success criteria may be established with the children or be in the form of ‘I can’ statements found on medium term plans. These statements help teachers to formulate questions designed to move children on in their learning.

Teachers evaluate every RE lesson against the planned learning for the lesson and plan subsequent learning based on their assessments.

Teachers also assess children on a termly basis against levelled ‘I can’ statements. This data is monitored by the RE coordinator and is fed back to staff at the end of the year/start of the new academic year.

**Reporting on RE attainment**

Teachers communicate RE achievement in termly parent meetings (autumn and spring) and once a year in a written school report (summer).

**Monitoring**

The RE subject leader is responsible for monitoring the subject throughout the school.

The RE subject leader provides support on an informal basis where requested. Support is given on a more formal basis where monitoring shows this is necessary or where staff have identified a personal need for professional development.

The RE subject leader uses information collected during monitoring to plan future development through the process of yearly action planning.

**CPD**

The RE subject leader plans and leads staff INSET in line with the RE action plan and school improvement plan. The RE subject leader attends training and RE subject leader meetings at the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education.

**Equal Opportunities**

Access to the RE curriculum will be provided to all pupils of the school irrespective of age, gender, race and ability. When examining religious issues, beliefs and customs of others will be respected.

**Parents Right of Withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and collective worship as identified in the Education Action 1944 and in subsequent legislation. Christ Church is a C of E Primary School where Christian values and principles underpin the whole curriculum. In order to preserve the distinctiveness of this church school community we encourage everyone to be involved in the RE. Parents who have concerns about this should contact the Executive Head Teacher. Withdrawals are subjected to an annual review, following a meeting with the Executive Head Teacher.

**Related Policies**

Teaching and Learning Policy

Marking and Feedback Policy

Assessment Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy