



Religious Education Curriculum Statement

Our Mission Statement is the cornerstone of everything we do at St. Catherine's. Through a rich and engaging curriculum which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, we aim for our pupils to gain the deep understanding of their innate gifts, talents and skills. Every child deserves to flourish physically, socially, emotionally, mentally and academically. We want to enable them all to "Let their light shine".

Intent

- Religious Education is an integral part of the curriculum at St. Catherine's and permeates all aspects of school life. It is the core subject and it is central to the life of a Catholic school.
- Religious Education is defined as the systematic study of the mystery of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ, the teachings of the Church, the lives of the Saints and the relationship between faith and life.
- As a Catholic School, we are committed to the Catholic Faith, recognising and valuing every individual as special and unique, made in the image and likeness of God.
- Religious Education at St. Catherine's respects and promotes each child's innate capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and spirituality.
- Our Religious Education curriculum leads our children to aspire not to have more, but to be more; children are taught about God's love; they learn about their Christian responsibilities; children are provided with experiences of church, Catholic and Christian traditions, as well as being taught to be respectful and understanding of people and traditions from other faith backgrounds.
- Through Religious Education our children learn about their unique place within the home, school and parish community.

Implementation:

- The curriculum hours in RE are non-negotiable and will be followed by all staff in the school. This is monitored by the RE Coordinator and Senior Leadership Team of the school.
- The Subject Leader for RE will evaluate provision in order to ensure that teaching and learning in RE is strong. Where necessary, staff will receive coaching and training in RE.
- We follow the 'Come and See' scheme of work which is approved by the Diocese of Newcastle and Hexham. It is fully aligned to Religious Education Curriculum Directory and it ensures consistency and progress of all learners.
- Each year group will study a number of units over the year. The units are developmental, building on previous knowledge and experience, and taking into account the children's age and understanding.
- Where possible, the RE curriculum will include guest speakers who are specialists in their area and representatives from charities will also visit school.
- RE is taught individually but plays a central role in all areas of school life.
- High quality teaching responds to the needs of children. Teachers actively mark work in lessons in order to identify misconceptions early.
- Children will be highly engaged in RE lessons through the use of a variety of sources such as religious stories, scripture, religious artwork, songs, music, dance and religious signs and symbols.



- The life and work of key figures in the History of the people of God will be studied; for example, lives of the Saints.
- Approaches will include whole class teaching, group activities and individual work. Children will have opportunities to work individually as well as cooperatively and collaboratively, developing their own knowledge and expertise as well as sharing experiences with others.
- High quality input from experts and educational resources complement the delivery of specialist learning admirably. The idea of vocation will be developed in all year groups.
- Pupils will participate in Mass, Feast Days, Holy Days, and Celebrations of the Word which will involve religious actions and worship including the celebration of the Sacraments.
- The use of visits and visitors in school will enhance the RE curriculum.

Impact:

- Children are happy learners within RE. They experience a wide-ranging number of learning challenges in RE and know appropriate responses to them.
 - Through RE, children deepen their appreciation of their faith and fulfil their God-given talents.
 - Visits within RE have enriched the lives of the children and they are able to discuss how the experience impacted their knowledge and understanding.
 - Children talk enthusiastically about their learning in RE and are eager to further their learning in the next stages of their education.
 - There is a proven track record of success in assessments that reflects the impact of deep learning.
 - Clear outcomes focus and guide all RE development plans and drive improvement.
 - Fundamental British Values are evident in RE and children understand how RE can celebrate difference.
 - The children grow to know and love God, develop their moral and spiritual nature and deepen their faith.
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- Children live their faith in an active and positive way, always aware of the presence and love of Christ guiding them.
 - Children develop their relationship with God and become religiously literate.
 - Through religious practice, the church's traditions of prayer and worship are upheld.
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- Faith plays a central role in the lives of the children and the decisions they make.
 - Children are confident, resilient and actively engaged in the wider society.
 - The school environment reflects and celebrates our Catholic faith.
 - Children are able to define, describe and discuss areas of RE. They confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, comparing, giving reasons, explaining the meaning of Biblical stories and considering the impact of beliefs.
 - Children reflect and consider important questions about RE.