

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) POLICY

Date of Ratification: Autumn 2010

Review date: Autumn 2015	Signed:  Mrs Gilly Kempton (HEAD TEACHER)
Review date: Autumn 2017	Signed: Mrs Gilly Kempton (HEAD TEACHER)

Charlton Mackrell Church of England Primary School Ethos statement:

'Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

On the basis that we are a church school, we accept that each child is an individual created by God and seek to provide each child with an environment of security, acceptance and reassurance, so that each one may develop their potential. We seek to create a happy atmosphere where Christian values are upheld.'

Charlton Mackrell Church of England Primary School vision:

- Our goal is to develop the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual well-being of each child in surroundings where Christian values prevail.
- We are committed to raising standards of teaching and learning.
- We aim to develop a strong sense of family, trust and friendship, whilst encouraging respect and responsibility for self, others and the environment.
- We strive to provide interesting and exciting opportunities which inspire all to achieve their full potential.
- Our intent is to stimulate a fun-loving, imaginative, adventurous attitude, with the ability to gain wisdom from failures and to celebrate successes.

Safeguarding Statement:

At Charlton Mackrell Church of England Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Charlton Mackrell C of E Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all whom access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

Aims of this policy

At Charlton Mackrell Church of England School, RE supports and strengthens the vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. The importance placed on the development of the whole child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in the RE curriculum.

Specifically, RE aims to enable pupils of all abilities and stages of development to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices so that they understand the importance of the Bible, the role of the church and recognise that for Christians their faith provides a way of interpreting life and its meaning.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of some of the other principal religions in Britain.
- Understand the meaning of the Worldwide Church.
- Understand how belief may impact on culture, relationships, values and lifestyle.
- Understand how belief can be expressed in a variety of ways including art, dance, music, ritual celebration and in different cultural settings.
- Develop spiritually, morally, culturally and socially by helping them to reflect upon personal feelings, responses and relationships.
- Explore ways in which religious values and teaching have an impact on actions and decisions for people of faith
- Be supported in their own search for meaning and purpose in life.
- Develop a sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- Explore concepts of love, forgiveness and sacrifice.
- Develop skills of reflection, empathy, communication, analysis, investigation, interpretation, evaluation and synthesis.
- Develop attitudes of respect, sensitivity, open-mindedness and self-esteem.

Legal Framework

As a voluntary controlled CE school, the Diocese of Bath & Wells Agreed Syllabus for RE, 'Awe Mystery and Wonder', is our statutory document for the teaching of RE.

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from religious education lessons, but as RE is central to the life and identity of Charlton Mackrell Church of England Primary School, we would ask parents to discuss with the head teacher any reasons they might have for doing this.

Teaching and Learning

The scheme of work for RE will maintain a balance between the two attainment targets: Learning about Religions and Learning from Religions.

There will be clear learning outcomes for all units of work, based on the appropriate expectations/levels as set out in the RE syllabus.

The scheme of work will ensure that there is continuity and progression for pupils and opportunities for assessment in both attainment targets.

A range of teaching and learning activities will ensure that pupils learn effectively and with interest.

Pupil progress and attainment in RE will be tracked and recorded termly and the school will keep an up to date portfolio of evidence to support assessment data

Progress in RE will form part of pupils' annual report to parents.

RE will be taught either as a discrete subject or as part of a cross-curricular approach where appropriate.

A range of visitors will be invited to support the teaching of RE, and where possible, there will be planned visits to places of worship.

Subject Leadership

The RE subject leader will support and monitor the subject and will receive an adequate budget to do this.

The RE subject leader will ensure that his/her subject knowledge and expertise are kept up to date by means of regular training.

The RE subject leader will ensure that staff receive adequate training in the teaching and assessment of RE.

The RE subject leader will regularly monitor the quality of RE teaching across the school.

The RE subject leader will liaise with the governor who holds responsibility for RE and they will report regularly to the governing body on progress and attainment in RE.

The RE subject leader and head teacher will ensure that the principles set out in the National Society's Statement of Entitlement for RE are implemented.

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the RE Co-ordinator and will be based upon discussions with other members of staff, observation of children's work and re-evaluation of teaching plans. The outcome of the review will influence the future school development plan.

Established Autumn 2010

Reviewed: Autumn 2015