



## *Through God We Achieve*

### OUR VISION AT ST. STEPHEN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

To deliver outstanding education in a caring community, with God at its centre

**'Turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding'. Proverbs 2:2**

### OUR VALUES:

**Joy** - we provide a happy and stimulating environment, rooted in Christian values.

**Excellence** - we are a church school committed to the highest standards in everything we do.

**Relationship** – we work hand-in-hand with St Stephen's Church as well as our parents and carers.

**Respect** - we enable our children to deepen or realise their own faith and respect the freedom of others in their beliefs.

**Nurture** – our children are cared for spiritually, morally, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally.

### Religious Education Policy 2020-21

Action	Policy to be reviewed as required and at least annually		
	Owner	Date	Completed
Updated	M Schumm	September 2020	✓
Next Review	M Schumm	September 2021	✓
Approved	Board of Governors	November 2020	

St Stephen's C.E. Primary School  
Religious Education Policy

**Introduction:**

Religious Education is required by law to be taught in all Primary Schools and it is a core subject of the National Curriculum. St. Stephen's, as a Church of England Primary School goes further. This document is a statement of the aims of our RE policy and how it is implemented.

**Rationale:**

The policy, agreed by the Governing Body, is written for both current and prospective parents, staff and the wider community so that everyone is clear as to our guiding principles and how they are manifested throughout the school.

We consider that parents will value highly a school where education is more than the dissemination of knowledge through the curriculum and that the quality of that education is underwritten by the Christian moral foundation on which the school is based. While many - but not all - will be Christian believers we will welcome pupils of other faiths as long as they understand that this is a Christian school of the Church of England. The Governors believe that young children are free to come to their own views.

This policy will explain how our Christian foundation governs our intake of pupils, how our staff are appointed and how parents of other faiths have the right to withdraw their children from any aspect of the practice, as they consider best.

**Our Aims:**

We seek to teach our pupils;

- ❖ to develop an awareness of their own unique value and that of others in the context of the school, their family and the community
- ❖ to encourage an awareness of God and the significance of Jesus Christ
- ❖ to develop knowledge and understanding of Christian belief, practices and values
- ❖ to explore and to develop their own spirituality
- ❖ to appreciate the ways in which religion is conveyed in story, myth, art and music
- ❖ to be introduced to the richness and diversity of other religious traditions in particular Islam, Hinduism and Judaism
- ❖ to recognise the rights of others to hold beliefs different from their own
- ❖ to foster an ethos that extends to all aspects of the school and beyond the classroom including behaviour, manners, discipline and in the best traditions of Christian loving kindness.

**How it operates:**

Our policy is implemented in two ways:

- a) as an agreed teaching syllabus

b) in the collective worship.

## **1. a) The teaching syllabus**

A scheme of work has been planned to take account of the ages and abilities of all pupils and to ensure that there is progression between the Key Stages. It will be delivered through specific lessons that focus on bible stories and discussion of issues, which highlight honesty, fairness, generosity, kindness and which encourage reconciliation, forgiveness and understanding of life and death. The syllabus will teach an understanding of Christian festivals and of other religious festivals in a multi-faith society. It will be delivered through visits to places of worship, art galleries and through drama, art, film, video, poetry, music and an exploration of the beauties of the natural world. Elements of the syllabus will overlap into other areas of the curriculum such as literacy, science and history.

### **Parental entitlement to withdraw:**

St. Stephen's Primary School is a Church of England School and therefore parents who have chosen the school have a commitment to ethos of a Christian education but do still retain the legal entitlement to withdraw their children from RE lessons. If this situation arises, the parents concerned should consult the Headteacher to discuss necessary arrangements.

### **Assessment:**

At the end of specific topics pupil progress will be assessed in light of their understanding of the subject, this forms part of their end of academic year report.

### **Links with other policies:**

This policy will support other curriculum subjects and will be in line with the Diocesan guide-lines for Religious Education.

### **Responsibilities:**

The implementation of monitoring of the policy will be the responsibility of the RE co-ordinator who will in turn report to the Headteacher.

### **Review:**

The Governing Body reviews this policy annually. They Governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the Governing Body receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.