

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Religious Education Policy

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Links with other policies – This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Relationship and Health Education
- PSHE
- Prayer and Liturgy

School Mission Statement

“We live, love and learn with Christ.”

This is our guiding principle; it is at the heart of all that we say and all that we do.

MISSION STATEMENT

God's children are the focal point of our school community. We strive to create a friendly, enjoyable working atmosphere based on Christ's word, where communication between home, school and parish is of paramount importance.

We aim to provide a Catholic education for our children, in which Christian values are shared and lived by all. We work to provide committed teaching, giving due regard to the requirements of the National

Curriculum. Our school offers a secure and caring environment where there is equality of opportunity for each child to realise his or her potential. We seek to enable children to grow in independence, to value a healthy lifestyle both physically and emotionally and to have respect for themselves and others. Children are encouraged to aim for the highest standards of behaviour and to foster an awareness of moral and social issues within our own community and in the wider world.

We aim to develop understanding citizens of the 21st century who recognise the need to participate in a caring and responsible way for the sustainability of our world.

Aims of Religious Education at St Vincent's

- to ensure that Catholic Education plays a central and vital part in our school
- provide opportunities for the development of a personal relationship with God
- enable the spiritual development of each child
- to make children more aware of themselves and more sensitive to people and things around them, as a contribution to their personal development and moral and spiritual growth.
- to help the children to develop moral qualities of self discipline, perseverance, determination, patience, fair play and consideration for others.
- help pupils to become familiar with the traditional forms of prayer
- provide a good experience of liturgy
- to prepare them for Christian moral education and formation of conscience.
- to develop an awareness of Jesus, through prayer and teaching and a devotion to Our Lady.
- to make them aware of other cultures and beliefs represented in our school, its immediate environment and in the country as a whole. To look at major faiths and respect their teachings
- to develop knowledge of, and encourage respect for other faiths and beliefs.

Leadership and Management of Religious Education

The Headteacher and governors are responsible for ensuring that Religious Education has a high profile in the curriculum, is taught as a core subject and is well resourced and monitored.

The RE Leader is responsible for leading, managing and supporting the delivery of and training of Religious Education across St Vincent's. The Headteacher and governors are also responsible for ensuring that the school's self-evaluation processes monitor and evaluate the identity of the school as a Catholic community and that the Catholic School Evaluation Document is regularly reviewed.

Delivery and Planning

At St Vincent's, we follow, 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' Religious Education Programme throughout the school; a syllabus based on the Religious Education Directory for Catholic Schools implementing a scripture- based scheme. See Appendix 1.

Religion is also taught according to the Religious Calendar, e.g. preparations in Advent, devotion to Mary, feast day of St Vincent's, the death and resurrection of Jesus during lent. The feasts of Ascension and Pentecost are a key focus at the relevant times of the year.

In addition to this, one week each term focuses on Other faiths. (see appendix 2)

Time

The Religious Education Curriculum Directory (3-19) for Catholic Schools and Colleges in England and Wales 2012 (RECD) clearly states the Bishops' Conference expectation that 10% of taught curriculum time is given to the teaching of Religious Education in each academic year. At St Vincent's we ensure that this expectation is fulfilled. These time allocations do not include collective worship, assemblies or hymn practice.

Links to other subjects

Religious Education is at the core of the whole taught curriculum at St Vincent's. It is incorporated into other curriculum areas such as Science, Geography, Literacy, Relationship and Health Education, Circle time and PSHE where appropriate.

Spiritual development

At St Vincent's pupils are taught to appreciate the beauty of God's world and a sense of awe and wonder is fostered.

The pupils' spirituality is developed through class meditations and through discussions and reflections.

Moral Education

At St Vincent's pupils are given opportunities to:

- develop confidence and responsibility and to make the most of their abilities
- prepare to play an active role as citizens respecting and valuing themselves and others, ensuring they consider their personal, physical and emotional well-being and that of others
- develop good relationships and respect the differences between people

Assessment

Assessment in Religious Education refers to what can be assessed: understanding, discern (reflect) and respond. The staff in our school believe in upholding the dignity and value of each individual and the methods used to assess performance are those which reinforce the individual's worth and needs.

At St Vincent's pupils are assessed at the end of each term. Class teachers complete an assessment grid for each child, dating evidence for each objective. They are assessed in a variety of ways including through discussion, written work, art work and observations. These are given to the RE lead to monitor and analysis each term, which is fed back to the Head teacher.

During parents meetings throughout the year and school reports, the parents are fed back on their child's RE assessment.

Monitoring

At St Vincent's monitoring is carried out by talking to the children, looking at their books and floor books and lesson observations. Monitoring is carried out by the RE lead.

Links with home, school and parish

From Year 2, children attend Mass at our parish church, Our Lady Help of Christians, each half term. The Parish Priest Fr Mario visits the school regularly and celebrates Mass with the children and staff on Holy days of obligation and at other times during the school year. St Vincent's advertises and supports parish events.

Collective worship

Please see our Prayer and Liturgy policy.

Relationship and Health Education

Please see our Relationship and Health Education policy.

Teaching of other faiths

At St Vincent's, we believe it is important that pupils learn to respect the faiths and beliefs which others hold. Therefore, children are given the opportunity to learn about cultures and faiths throughout their time at St Vincent's. In Reception children learn about special days in different religions, in Year 1

children learn about festivals and worship and in Year 2 onwards, children study a different faith group throughout the year. (See Appendix 2)

Resources

Some of the resources available to support the teaching of Religious Education in the classroom are:

- The Way the Truth and the Life teachers' books and text books for Years 1-6
- The Way the Truth and the Life CD for Foundation stage
- The Way the Truth and the Life website – resources for the interactive whiteboard
<http://www.tere.org/>
- Coram (PSHE)
- Ten Ten: Life to the Full
- Religious Artwork
- Resources for other Faiths topic boxes
- Books and DVDS
- Bibles
- Reflective music (CDs and use of youtube)

Visits from leaders of "Other Faiths" and workshops eg Hinduism, Diwali and others.

Appendix 1: The Way, The Truth and the The Life scheme

Foundation & Key Stage 1 The Way, the Truth & the Life syllabus

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Foundation	F1 God's World	F2 God's family	F3 Getting to know Jesus	F4 Sorrow and joy	F5 New Life	F6 Church
Year 1	KS 1.1 God's great plan Genesis Story of Creation The First People God's World Noah's Ark	KS 1.2 Mary mother of God Mary our Mother Mary visits Elizabeth Advent Birth of Jesus Visit of the Shepherds Mary is Our Mother	KS 1.3 Families & celebrations The Presentation Jesus and his Family Our Church Family Baptism	KS 1.4 Following Jesus Jesus chooses his First Disciples The Good Samaritan Jesus goes to Jerusalem Good Friday	KS 1.5 Resurrection Easter Jesus rose from the dead Jesus appears to the Disciples Jesus eats with the Disciples Jesus and Thomas Jesus returns to Heaven	KS 1.6 Miracles The Storm at Sea Helping Others Cure of the Paralysed Man Cure of the Blind Man The Wedding at Cana
Year 2	KS 2.1 Chosen people We are chosen God Chose Abraham Abraham obeyed God Moses God's Plan for Moses Daniel Danial in the Lion's Den	KS 2.2 Mysteries Mysteries The Holy Trinity The Annunciation Advent The Mystery of the Incarnation The wise Men	KS 2.3 The Good News Jesus as a Little Boy Jesus goes to the Temple Loss and Finding of Jesus Jesus Chooses Disciples Good News, Sad News Feeding the 5,000 Cure of the Paralysed Man	KS 2.4 The Mass Sunday The Beginning of Mass The Offertory The Consecration Holy Communion Living out the Mass	KS 2.5 Eastertide Jesus is Alive Jesus Appears to Mary Magdala Jesus Appears to the Disciples After the Resurrection The Ascension Pentecost	KS 2.6 Birth of the Church Good Friends The Apostles The Beginning of the Church Jesus Helps the Apostles The Holy Spirit Peter in Prison Peter's Escape

Key Stage2 The Way, the Truth & the Life syllabus (click panel for more details).

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3	<p>3.1 The Christian Family The Holy Family Our Family The Family of the Church Joining the Family of the Church The Sacrament of Baptism Signs & Symbols used in Baptism Promise made at Baptism</p>	<p>3.2 Mary our mother The Annunciation Mary visits Elizabeth The Mystery of the Incarnation Advent The Birth of Jesus The Shepherds Visit of the Wise Men</p>	<p>3.3 Sacrament of Reconciliation The Great Commandment Called to Change God's Love The Sacrament of Reconciliation Receiving the Sacrament Of Reconciliation</p>	<p>3.4 Celebrating The Mass How the Mass began The last Supper The Sacrifice of the Mass The New Covenant The Beginning of Mass The Readings at Mass The Offertory & Consecration Holy Communion Our parish Church</p>	<p>3.5 Celebrating Celebrating New Life Celebrating Easter Jesus is Risen Jesus appears to the Apostles The Ascension Celebrating Pentecost The Fruits of the Spirit</p>	<p>3.6 Being a Christian The Challenge Loving my Neighbour St Paul Meeting Jesus Using Gifts to Help Others Prayer</p>
Year 4	<p>4.1 The Bible What is the Bible God Calls Abraham Joseph God Calls Moses David is Chosen by God God speaks to us in the Bible</p>	<p>4.2 Trust in God Learning to Trust Zechariah Mary trusts in God Joseph trusts in God God fulfils his promise Mystery of the Trinity Mystery of the Incarnation</p>	<p>4.3 Jesus the teacher The Presentation in the Temple Jesus in the Temple The Baptism of Jesus Disciples of Jesus The Teaching of Jesus The Parables</p>	<p>4.4 Jesus the Saviour Jesus, truly human Jesus, truly God Holy Week Holy Thursday Good Friday Death on a Cross The Resurrection of Jesus</p>	<p>4.5 The early Christians Jesus appears to the disciples The Ascension Pentecost Stephen and Saul The cost of Discipleship The Teaching of the Apostles</p>	<p>4.6 Belonging to the Church What is the Church The Sacraments The Church's Year The Communion of Saints The Mission of the Church Mary, Mother of the Church</p>
Year 5	<p>5.1 Creation How did the world begin? God is the Creator The Fall</p>	<p>5.2 God's Covenants What is a Covenant? God's Covenant with</p>	<p>5.3 Inspirational people Jesus, our Saviour To be a Disciple The Beatitudes</p>	<p>5.4 Reconciliation The Ripple Effect Mary Untangles knots of Sin God's Love &</p>	<p>5.5 Life in the risen Jesus Guarding the Tomb The Resurrection</p>	<p>5.6 Other Faiths The Church Teaches What We Believe Judaism</p>

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Stewards of the Earth God's great Helpers God's great Gifts	Abraham The Exodus God's Covenant with the Israelites The Prophets' Message The New Covenant	Living in the Beatitudes The Presence of God Proclaiming the Faith Handing over to God Seeking God's will Be saints not Celebrities	Forgiveness The Meaning of Sin The Sacrament of Reconciliation Forgiveness takes courage	The Spirit in the Church Jesus is with Us Prayer Importance of Prayer	Jewish Celebrations Jews and Christians Islam Prayer & Fasting for Muslims Christians and Muslims
Year 6	6.1 The Kingdom of God What? Why? Where? The Kingdom is for All Commitment to the Kingdom Variety of Responses to the Kingdom The Compassion of Jesus Sharing the Mission	6.2 Justice What is Justice? A Price to Pay Overcoming Injustice Power in Weakness Preparing the Way for Jesus The Mystery of the Incarnation	6.3 Exploring the Mass The Bread of Life The New Covenant The Beginning of Mass The Offertory at Mass The Consecration Holy Communion The Eucharist The Blessed Sacrament	6.4 Jesus the Son of God Big Questions Identity of Jesus Journey to Jerusalem Holy Thursday Good Friday Easter Sunday Holy Week in Church	6.5 The Transforming Spirit Disciples of Jesus The Ascension Pentecost Peter the Apostle Early Christian Community Paul the Apostle Successors of St Peter	6.6 Called to serve The Invitation Sacrament of Confirmation Sacrament of marriage Sacrament of Holy Orders Many Ways to Serve Responses to God's Call Be a Living Witness

Appendix 2: Teaching of Other faiths curriculum

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Reception Special days in	Diwali	Vietnamese New Year (Tet)	Passover

<u>different religions</u>			
<u>Year 1</u> <u>Festivals and Places of Worship</u>	The Church & Pope Francis Christians -Christmas	Holi –Hindu Festival Hindu Mandir	Ramadan – Muslim festival The Mosque
<u>Year 2</u> <u>Judaism</u>	Focus: Stories and Prayer Shabbat Abraham and Moses	Focus: Places of Worship and Holy Book The Synagogue The Torah	Focus: Festivals, Belongings and Values e.g. Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur Hanukkah, Sukkot
<u>Year 3</u> <u>Buddhism</u>	Focus: Stories and Prayer The Jataka tales, Buddha's life story, The Four Signs and The Eightfold Path	Focus: Places of Worship and Symbols Home and The Temple Symbols of Buddhism	Focus: Festivals, Belongings and Values e.g. Wesak, Songkran, Buddha's birthday, Magha Puja Day, Dharma day, Kathina,
<u>Year 4</u> <u>Hinduism</u>	Focus: Stories and Prayer Krishna and Ganesh, Avatars of God ,Puja	Focus: Places of Worship and Symbols Prayer at Home The Mandir Sacred Texts	Focus: Festivals, Belongings and Values e.g. Diwali, Maha Shivaratri, Holi Symbols used in festivals.
<u>Year 5</u> <u>Islam</u>	Focus: Stories and Prayer Mohammad The Qur'an	Focus: Places of Worship and Holy Book The Mosque, Prayer at Home	Focus: Festivals, Belongings and Values Eid al-Fitr, Mawlid, Islamic New Year e.g. Guidance for Muslims. The Five Pillars. Ramadan and Pilgrimage
<u>Year 6</u> <u>Sikhism</u>	Focus: Stories and Prayer Guru Nanak Gur Granth Sahib.	Focus: Places of Worship and Holy Book Gurdwara Importance of Prayer	Focus: Festivals, Belongings and Values e.g. Lohri, Guru Nanak Gurburab, Baisakhi, the Khalsa, Mool Mantra. Guidelines for living Sewa

