



Religious Education

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but will have eternal life.’ – John 3:16

Intent

Our Religious Education curriculum is at the heart of our Catholic school and reflects the vision of the Religious Education Directory. We aim to nurture every child in their relationship with God, developing religious literacy and a deep understanding of the Catholic faith while respecting the beliefs and traditions of others. Through the study of scripture, tradition, prayer, liturgy, and Catholic Social Teaching, pupils are encouraged to know, love and serve God, enabling them to grow spiritually, morally, intellectually and socially as disciples of Christ.

At St. Marks we intend to:

- Create a balanced curriculum which is holistic and encompasses the whole child whilst following statutory guidance.
- Provide education in Catholic virtues.
- Keep Gospel values at the heart of everything we do.
- Provide Religious understanding.
- Teach children to be just, self-giving and prophetic in what they say and do.
- Follow the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Teach children about their sense of belonging: School, Community and Parish.
- Give children many opportunities to study scripture and be exposed to different parts of the Bible.
- Provide children with a curriculum which allows all learners to progress through differentiation.
- Give children the confidence to speak openly about their faith.
- Provide lessons which are creative and give children excitement for learning of the subject.
- Give opportunities for prayer and reflection across all subjects.
- Teach children about other faiths and have respect for different beliefs.

- Underpin R.E. through our school values: Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Reasoning, Resourcefulness and Reflection.
- Assess regularly to ensure progression in R.E.
- Support parents in discussions related to RSHE.
- Develop inquisition for children talking about their faith.
- Provide interventions where needed to support all learners.
- Allow children the opportunity to be part of a Chaplaincy Team and develop their faith whilst supporting the school.

Implementation

Religious Education is taught using the Religious Education Directory programme, ensuring a rigorous, knowledge-rich curriculum rooted in Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Learning is structured through the six branches of the Directory: Creation and Covenant, Prophecy and Promise, Desert to Garden, Galilee to Jerusalem, To the ends of the earth and Dialogue and Encounter allowing pupils to deepen their understanding of God's revelation and the Church's mission over time. High-quality teaching incorporates scripture, prayer, discussion, reflection, liturgy, and opportunities for pupils to make meaningful links between faith and everyday life. Assessment is ongoing and informs planning to ensure all pupils make progress in both their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.

The teaching of RE is supplemented through Catholic Plus and Day by Day. An additional 30 minutes is directed towards Catholic Social Teaching which gives children a rich 3 hours of taught RE Curriculum.

Impact

By the time pupils leave our school, they are religiously literate, confident in articulating their understanding of the Catholic faith, and able to reflect thoughtfully on their own beliefs and values. They demonstrate respect, compassion and a commitment to the dignity of every person, inspired by the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching. Pupils understand how faith influences actions and decisions, actively contribute to the life of the school and wider community, and are well prepared to continue their journey of faith and learning as responsible citizens and lifelong disciples of Christ.

In order to assess the knowledge and understanding of Religious Education we:

- Use the “Ways of knowing” objectives produced by the Diocese to assess termly.
- Use a subject monitoring timetable to include book looks and learning walks.
- Provide regular feedback through marking.
- Obtain ideas from the pupils through pupil voice.
- Track data for each cohort.
- Provide CPD opportunities for staff.
- Have floor books for each classroom to provide opportunity to collect evidence.

At the end of each term data is collected and assessed by the RE subject leader. This is then reported back to staff members to show tracking of those meeting expectations, below expectations and exceeding expectations. From this, intervention is planned for to ensure all children have the opportunity to be on track.

Role of the RE Leader

- To ensure Diocesan curriculum is followed in all Year groups
- To attend Diocesan meetings and provide regular updates to staff,
- To monitor work produced by the pupils through a ‘Book Look’.
- To lead Chaplaincy Team
- To analyse data at the end of each term.
- To monitor Prayer and Liturgy throughout the school.
- To provide ‘Word of the Fortnight’ for staff to share with pupils.
- To support Headteacher in the updating of the RE SEF.
- To provide CPD for staff.