



# ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

with NURSERY

## Religious Education Policy 2016-17

Religious Education (RE) in our school is based on the Gospel Values and teachings of the Catholic Church. We aim to be a welcoming community of faith and to develop amongst our pupils a strong awareness of the spiritual dimensions of life and to equip them with Christian values which will guide them throughout their lives. We value and maintain strong links with our Parents, Carers and Parish who support us in the education of their children. Our Mission Statement encompasses our vision for the school.

### **St Augustine's Catholic School Mission Statement**

Every member of the school is unique in the sight of God.

Our community is based on Gospel Values so that our children are led towards a lasting belief in the Catholic Faith.

We provide the highest quality education to enable children to reach their full potential and be thoughtful, compassionate and effective citizens.

### **Aims of the School**

In line with The Archdiocese of Southwark Vision for Education, 'We seek to recognise and treasure the unique gifts of each pupil and do all we can to allow these to develop and flourish in response to the creative action of the Holy Spirit.'

We aim:

- > To help pupils develop a personal relationship with Jesus, and to experience the Good news of the Gospel.
- > To enable the pupils to grow in their awareness of what it means to be a member of the church.
- > To encourage our pupils to reflect on their lives and on society in the light of the Gospel.
- > To support the parents and the parish in creating a Christian community built on the experience of Liturgy and Prayer
- > To develop in our pupils a sense of social justice.
- > To increase pupils knowledge, awareness and respect of other religious traditions and cultures.
- > To create a warm and welcoming community of faith where politeness and respect are shown to all.
- > To develop in children, through Bible study and our agreed whole school Values Education Programme, an understanding of values as taught by Jesus.

## **Delivery and Teaching of RE**

Our RE is delivered in line with the requirements laid out by the Catholic Education Service (CES) in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory for England and Wales (2012). Teachers will 'plan and teach schemes of work that are engaging and accessible so that all pupils may progress appropriately in their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.' (Curriculum Directory pg 5) To enable this we follow the Come and See Programme of Work and allocate at least 10% curriculum time to the teaching of R.E. as is required in the Curriculum Directory (pg 5). All teachers use the agreed planning format and planning will identify specific assessment opportunities, linked to the termly 'formal assessment topic' as set by the Southwark Catholic Education Commission (CEC). These assessment opportunities will be integrated into our planning and teaching.

**Other Faiths Teaching:** Judaism is taught annually in the Autumn Term. Sikhism, Islam and Hinduism are taught in rotation, usually in the Summer Term. Planning for each Faith is detailed in The Come and See Programme of Work.

**Values Education:** The agreed School Values are taught on a monthly basis through Assemblies and through RE lessons.

**Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PHSCE)** is taught in a cross curricular manner through all subjects, including RE, via the PHSE Association Programme of Work (See PHSCE Policy)

**Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)** is taught through the PHSCE and Science Curriculum (See SRE Policy)

## **Prayer**

Prayer is a fundamental part of our school life including formal prayers and children's own informal prayers.

- > Formal Prayer: These are introduced during Class lessons and assemblies follow those detailed in the Come and See Programme of Work. Additional formal prayers in KS 1 & 2 include prayers at the beginning and end of the school day and prayers before meals.
  
- > Informal prayer has a very important place in the spiritual life of the children and should include the everyday language of praising, thanking, asking and saying sorry. Informal prayer should encourage reflection by all pupils on their everyday life.

The Liturgical Year: Alongside Come and See we aim to extend the children's knowledge of the following important feast days and occasions for celebration so that they all become familiar with the structure of the Church's liturgical year: Autumn Term: Harvest, Holy Rosary, All Souls & All Souls Days, Advent Christmas.

Spring Term: Epiphany, Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Easter, Holy Rosary.

Summer Term: Ascension, Pentecost, Holy Trinity, Corpus Christi, Saint Peter & Saint Paul

### **Marking**

Marking pupils work will follow the school Marking Policy. (See Marking Policy)

### **Monitoring of RE**

This will take place in line with the school monitoring timetable. Monitoring of lessons will be via learning walks, drop-ins and formal lesson observations. Planning and books will also be monitored and reviewed. The RECo will provide written and verbal feedback on observations and monitoring to teachers and governors.

### **Assessment of RE**

We recognise that in addition to high quality RE teaching 'Assessment is a necessary part of the Learning Process' (Curriculum Directory Pg 65 - 2012), in addition to recording and reporting, for children to take their next steps in learning and to affirm attainment and achievement. All assessment will take account of the concepts, attitudes, skills and knowledge highlighted in the Curriculum Directory for Schools. Formal assessments will be made in line with the guidance and the 'Levels of Attainment in Religious Education in Catholic Schools and Colleges' as agreed by the Bishops' Conference 2006. There will be **one formal assessment of children's work per term**. The Come and See topic for formal assessment will be identified by the Southwark CEC.

- > Children's recorded work
- > Teachers marking, questioning and children's responses.
- > Teacher's observations of children during role play, carpet time etc.
- > Children's own speaking and listening contributions.
- > Pupils self-assessments – for example through mind maps.

## **Tracking of Assessments**

The formal assessment for each term will be marked and levelled by the class teacher and submitted to the RE Coordinator for moderation and tracking.

Tracking folders with examples of children's assessed work (one example of a Confident, Secure and Hesitant piece of work) will be maintained for each Year Group. Each term there will be one formal assessment (three per year) and the RECo will liaise with the class teacher to monitor the tracking across the year and assign an overall 'end of year' level for each child.

## **Liturgical Worship**

Through worship we aim to join the work of home and parish in developing the Spirituality of children and to develop the concept of worship as an integral part of school life. We also aim to develop an understanding of different forms of worship and to reflect the multicultural nature of our children in various acts of worship.

*Ways in which we provide opportunity for different forms of worship:*

- > Careful preparation of and involvement in class and school masses.
- > Whole school Assemblies, separate Key Stage Assemblies, Class Assemblies
- > Special liturgical services to celebrate feasts of the Church's liturgical year.
- > Assemblies focusing on Values
- > Classroom Worship supported by focal areas where the children can reflect and pray.

## **Collective Worship**

See Collective Worship policy

## **Focal Areas**

These are set up in each classroom and should always include the key words for each Come and See topic. The areas are changed regularly to reflect each new topic. Each area will have an 'interactive' element, such as a question box or prayer sheets, class prayer book, to encourage children to become involved in prayer and spirituality within the class.

***Useful items for an attractive display include:***

Brightly coloured fabrics, artefacts, pictures, statues, photographs, candles, book stands, bibles, class prayer books/books for intentions etc.

**Altar cloths** – are provided in the colours of the liturgical year and should be changed accordingly – the RECo will advise teachers on the correct colour.

**Corridor Altars/Focal Areas**

These are maintained and updated by the RECo to reflect the Liturgical Year and Celebrations and Feast Days. Artefacts, icons, statues, candles and religious posters etc. may be used on the two main corridor Altars.

**Resources:**

Resources for RE are kept in the Resource Room and are accessible to all staff. Resources (including artefacts, icons, books etc.) reflect multi-cultural nature of our school's intake. Each class is resourced with Bibles suitable to each age group and God and Church's Story Books 123. Resources are reviewed and updated as necessary by the RECo.