

FLUSHING C OF E (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONTEXT

Flushing C of E Primary School is a small school, serving a settled community in an almost totally and mostly nominal Christian area of the south west of England. However, the pupils are not immune from developments in and influences from a wider world, through family and personal contacts, the media, and from their education. It is a part of the aims of the school to offer a wide-ranging education, to prepare pupils for life not only in their own community but also in a wider world.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

(For details see Circular 1/94, the 2002 Education Act and the School Standard and Framework Act 1998)

RE is a part of the basic curriculum of the school, as set out in 2002 Education Act and the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and must be taught to all pupils, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents.

- As Flushing C of E Primary School is a voluntary controlled primary school, RE must be taught according to the Agreed Syllabus of the Cornwall County Council. This states that 5% of the curriculum time to be spent on RE, in addition to the act of collective worship daily.
- RE must be non-denominational in Community and Controlled schools. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE.

AIMS FOR RE

THE AIMS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ARE TO HELP PUPILS TO:

- Be healthy, stay safe, to enjoy and achieve, to make a positive contribution and to achieve economic well being (Children Act 2004)

In this context pupils will:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain;
- gain experience of being members of a community and develop appropriate skills as citizens;
- develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings of the principal religions represented in Great Britain;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, cultural and social development by:
 1. developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings can relate to them
 2. responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions, and to their own understanding and experience
 3. reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study
- develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and beliefs.

The school fully accepts these aims as appropriate for RE for the pupils at this school and they have been used to inform the planning, teaching and learning.

COMMON REQUIREMENTS

The syllabus sets out seven common requirements (see page 14 of the syllabus) the school will clearly identify where these requirements are being met.

SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT OF PUPILS

Through the aims above, in light of the common requirements, RE contributes fully and positively to the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of the pupils. This is promoted throughout the school - its ethos, curriculum and its worship.

APPROACHES TO RE

RE will be provided through (one, two or all of these, or in combination):

- a) normally as one lesson a week dedicated to the delivery of RE as set out in each class's timetable;
- b) as part of a wider topic focus involving the delivery of other subjects such as History, Geography, Art, Music or English, and;
- c) occasional connections with the school's programme of assemblies and collective worship (for full details of which, please see separate policy).

MANAGEMENT OF RE

The School Co-ordinator is Mark French whose task it is, within the overall management and curriculum policy of the school (the head teacher is responsible for coordinating Worship):

- to develop school policy on RE
- to work with colleagues to develop the scheme of work for RE
- to ensure continuity and progression in RE through the school
- to advise on methods of teaching and learning
- to develop and maintain a resource base for RE
- to co-ordinate in-service training in RE
- to develop and maintain a development plan for RE
- to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of RE and to inform the school's self-evaluation process so that effective targets can be set to improve the impact of RE on pupil learning

METHODS IN RE

RE will use the full range of teaching and learning methods as appropriate for the age, development and abilities of the pupils, and for the purpose and content of the work, including:

- whole class teaching
- individual research and resource-based learning
- visits to buildings and places outside school
- the use of artefacts
- visits from outside speakers
- use of the basic skills of reading, literacy, numeracy and artwork
- use of audio-visual resources such as radio, TV, video
- differentiated work for pupils of different ability

RESOURCES

At present the resources available to RE are reviewed with a view to creating an action plan for resourcing.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Pupils are graded on the school's 0-9 scale against the 2014 National Curriculum. 0-4 represents achievement below expected, 5-7 at expected with 8&9 reserved for greater depth.

REPORTING RE

It is a legal requirement that the Headteacher issues a written report of progress in RE for each pupil annually. This will be done along with reports for subjects of the National Curriculum.

WITHDRAWAL FROM RE

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from RE in whole or in part, as indicated in the school's prospectus. If a parent wishes to withdraw their child they must write in the first instance to the Headteacher who will then invite them in to see if it will be possible to keep them in RE and, if failing that, how the withdrawal will be managed. The School Standards and Framework Act sets out the options for parents and the school currently acts on the advice of Cornwall SACRE in this regard (see attached document).

DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR RE

There will be a development plan section for RE/Worship within the School Development Plan.

EVALUATION OF POLICY

This policy will be reviewed according to the policy cycle document.

July19