

ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



www.clitherow.herts.sch.uk
admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk

Religious Education Policy (School Policy)

Ownership:	Catholic Life, RE and Collective Worship Committee
Document Date:	Autumn 2024
Review Date:	Autumn 2025
Ratified by FGB:	Autumn 2024

Pupils are given many opportunities to serve each other, the school and the wider community, developing their own skills and talents in the process

Section 48 Diocesan Inspection October 2018

Pupils enjoy school. They respond well to the high expectations of staff. Pupils strive to do their best and achieve well. Pupils are extremely kind and caring. They frequently give up their free time to help each other. Lessons are free from disruption and lunchtimes are a buzz of happy and harmonious play.

Ofsted May 2024

*At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children
Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him*

At St. Margaret Clitherow School, Religious Education (RE) is at the heart of our ethos. We are committed to nurturing students who are religiously literate, grounded in Scripture, and knowledgeable about the traditions of the Catholic Church. Our goal is for students to reflect on their faith, understand its impact on their lives, and live according to the teachings of Christ. This policy outlines our approach to Religious Education, ensuring that it permeates every aspect of school life and aligns with the Catholic mission entrusted to us.

Aims and Objectives

Religious Literacy: Enable all pupils to develop a deep understanding of Catholic doctrine, Scripture, and Church traditions, empowering them to articulate their faith and values clearly and confidently.

Spiritual and Moral Development: Provide pupils with the tools to reflect spiritually, think ethically and theologically, and recognise the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.

Catholic Identity: Embed the teachings of Jesus, particularly the concept of the Kingdom of God, into the life of the school, fostering a community rooted in mercy, compassion, and justice.

Curriculum Integration: Ensure that RE is interwoven with the overall curriculum and the daily life of the school, promoting a holistic approach to faith and learning.

Curriculum Implementation

A minimum of 10% of curriculum time across all key stages is dedicated to Religious Education, in accordance with diocesan guidelines.

We follow 'The Way, the Truth and the Life' scheme, which adheres to the Religious Education Curriculum Directory set out by the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales.

Pupils are assessed on both the content of their recorded work and their participation in individual, group, and oral activities. Continuous assessment allows teachers and the subject leader to monitor progress and ensure comprehensive coverage of the curriculum.

A variety of teaching methodologies are employed, including whole class instruction, group activities, and individual work, to meet the diverse needs and abilities of all pupils. This approach encourages cooperative learning, personal reflection, and active discussion. Teaching and learning in RE is creative and cross-curricular incorporating drama, singing, music, art and other areas of the curriculum.

In the EYFS, children are introduced to different faith traditions and celebrations, laying the foundation for a broader understanding of world religions.

Catholic Life and Prayer

The values of the Kingdom of God underpin our school's life, and we strive to bring signs of God's mercy, compassion, and justice into the world.

A rhythm of prayer throughout the school day supports the spiritual development of pupils and reinforces the RE curriculum.

Our school's Catholic identity is reflected in every aspect of school life, with Christ's teachings guiding our actions and decisions.

Inclusion of Other Faiths

As part of our RE curriculum, pupils explore other religions, including Judaism and Islam, fostering an understanding and respect for diverse beliefs. This prepares pupils for life in modern Britain, promoting social cohesion and contributing to the common good.

As pupils progress through the school, they are introduced to the concept that Christianity is a diverse faith, recognising that not all Christians are Catholic and that some people may not adhere to any faith tradition.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

PSHE and RSE are taught through the themes of 'Created and Loved by God,' 'Created to Love Others,' and 'Created to Live in Community.' This approach ensures that these subjects are delivered in a manner consistent with Catholic teachings and values.

A safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment is established through ground rules and agreements developed by both pupils and teachers, with a focus on age-appropriate discussions.

We use Ten Ten's Life to the Full RSE Programme, recognised by the Diocese of Westminster, ensuring that our teaching is rooted in Church teachings and responds to the developmental needs of our pupils.

Assessment and Monitoring

Pupils' progress in RE is regularly assessed, with a focus on their understanding of key concepts, ability to reflect on faith in action, and participation in class discussions. This ongoing assessment helps teachers tailor instruction to meet individual learning needs.

The RE subject leader is responsible for monitoring the quality of RE teaching, ensuring curriculum coverage, and supporting staff in delivering high-quality religious education.

RE learning is marked in line with other core subjects and in accordance to our Feedback and Marking Policy (please see separate policy.) In line with the requirements of the Diocese of Westminster RE is assessed using the Age-Related Standards. These are descriptions of what pupils at different ages are expected to be able to achieve by the end of that age-related phase. They are prescriptive, not diagnostic. By themselves, they are not ways of measuring achievement, but rather a description of what is expected of almost all pupils by the time they reach the end of a particular age phase.

Parental and Community Involvement

We recognise the important role of parents in their children's faith formation and seek to involve them in the RE curriculum through regular communication, invitations to school Masses, and opportunities for faith-based activities at home.

We actively seek to build partnerships with the local parish and wider Catholic community to enhance the spiritual life of our school and provide pupils with a living experience of faith in action.

Review and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains aligned with the evolving needs of our pupils, the requirements of the Diocese, and the ongoing development of the RE curriculum.

By adhering to this policy, St. Margaret Clitherow School aims to cultivate a vibrant Catholic ethos where Religious Education shapes the spiritual, moral, and academic development of every child.