



Sherrier Church of England Primary Religious Education Policy

"Teach children how to live and they'll remember it all of their lives"

Proverbs 22:6

This policy is implemented within the context and spirit of the of Sherrier C of E Primary School.

The policy is underpinned by our school Christian values:

The 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils'. Sherrier is a Church of England Primary School. RE is taught according to the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus (2021 – 2026), which includes 'Understanding Christianity.'

Rationale

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living. Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus

At Sherrier, we understand that the teaching of RE allows all pupils to explore, understand and express their own response to spiritual and religious approaches to life through the study of Christianity and other principal religions.

We value the significant contribution that RE makes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural knowledge and development of pupils.

We recognise that the study of world religions, their stories, traditions, history, philosophies and ethics is an essential part of a broad, rich and well-rounded education.

We appreciate that religious literacy, knowledge and understanding make an important contribution to community cohesion, the instilling of British and moral values and our ability to empathise with the viewpoints and beliefs of our neighbours.

Intent

The aim of the RE curriculum at Sherrier is to give children a deep knowledge and understanding of Christianity and an overview of different world religions. They are

encouraged to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. As a school it is our duty to ensure that all children gain an understanding of the cultural conventions, moral traditions, customs and faiths which embody the fundamental values of all the communities they may come into contact with locally and globally in their lives

Sherrer is a Voluntary Controlled School, therefore we deliver RE in line with the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Leicestershire, alongside resources from Understanding Christianity.

In all subjects we aim to support children to develop a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding. Particular skills which are developed in RE include:

- Investigation
- Interpretation
- Analysis and Evaluation
- Expression
- Empathy

Implementation

RE at Sherrier is taught weekly throughout the school. In order to make RE a lively, active subject we employ a variety of teaching methods through discussions, recording, active participation, outside visitors, trips, art, music, drama, the use of artefacts and periods of stillness and reflection.

Where possible, we want our pupils to have the opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of faith communities. We have close links with both the local Church of England Church and the Methodist Church. The RE lead has undertaken training from Leicester Diocese and staff meeting time has been allocated to ensure that all teachers develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to teach high quality RE.

The curriculum for RE aims to ensure that all pupils:

1. Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- describe, explain and analyse beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities and amongst individuals
- identify, investigate and respond to questions posed, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and worldviews
- appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

2. Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities
- express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value, including ethical issues
- appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion.

3. Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively
- enquire into what enables different individuals and communities to live together respectfully for the wellbeing of all
- articulate beliefs, values and commitments clearly in order to explain why they may be important in their own and other people's lives.

Impact

To develop staff expertise and confidence and monitor and evaluate the implementation of R.E. in liaison with SLT and governors the following activities are undertaken:

- Training
- Learning walks (lessons and assemblies)
- Book trawls
- Pupil and staff interviews
- Staff surveys
- Data monitoring based on teachers' annual summative assessment judgements
- Low stake assessments built into each topic of study.
- Annual RE curriculum evaluation

Assessment and Monitoring of RE

The children are encouraged to develop skills to enable them to assess their own progress in RE and to understand how to improve their RE work.

Each teacher will be responsible for the regular assessment of his or her pupils throughout a unit. This allows teacher to ensure that each pupil is set work that is appropriately challenging and is support where needed. On an annual basis, the school reports to parents on effort and attainment in RE, based on teacher judgement.

Reporting to parents

On an annual basis, the school reports to parents on attainment and progress in RE based on teachers' annual summative assessment judgement.

The right of withdrawal from RE At Sherrier Primary School

We are committed to the principles of inclusion and hospitality to people of all faiths and none. We recognise that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Religious Education on the grounds of conscience. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the headteacher to discuss any concerns or questions they may have about the teaching of Religious Education at Sherrier.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Collective Worship Policy
- Spirituality Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives