

THE FEDERATION OF ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Religious Education Guidance

Year 1

Aims of Religious Education

Curriculum Aim

The staff of St Mary's will work to give each child full access to a broad and balanced curriculum, encouraging in each individual a sense of self-worth and self-esteem. Opportunities are offered for children to apply and use their knowledge and skills in cross-curricular studies to deepen their understanding of religious truths and think creatively.

Introduction

This document was created to allow parents to see what is being taught in RE in the current year group and how, as a school, we will develop our understanding of Christianity, Judaism and another world religion (Islam, Hinduism or Sikhism). We teach RE through a curriculum based programme called 'Come and See'. If you have any further questions please seek guidance from Miss McCormack (RE Leader).

Statement of intent

In our school Religious Education is the core subject. For us, Religious Education is for all. Religious Education is as academically respected as other core curriculum areas. Within the classroom, teachers use a variety of styles and strategies, to reinforce the Christian message we as a Catholic school uphold.

In St. Mary's, our mission through Religious Education, is to give each individual child the opportunity to experience celebration, prayer and time for personal reflection. It is a collaborative subject which respects each child's own inner spiritual self, and it allows for wonder, awe, reverence and self-exploration. It is taught discretely and developmentally. It includes the deepening of knowledge, and understanding of key theological ideas and their application to life.

Through 'Come and See' we, as a Catholic school, aim to develop our children's religious growth. We strive to give each child the opportunity to explore the language of religious experience – through stories, visitors, religious education visits, artefacts, religious activities, collective worship, I.C.T, drama, art and music.

As a school we work as closely together as we can with the home and our Parish Priest (Father Vincent Fedigan) and Parish communities of (St Mary's and John's, St David's and St Patrick's Church) so that we can present the Christian event, message and way of life in a systematic way with regard to each individual child and their potential.

We include appropriate materials about Other Faiths – Judaism and other World Religions and we encourage our children to be tolerant and respectful towards other faiths and religions. Engagement with their own and others beliefs and values will help develop and nurture good attitudes and dispositions so that children are instilled with a love of learning and a desire to go on learning. In St. Mary's we aim to foster a loving relationship between our children, staff and members of the school community. This relationship reflects the commandment of Jesus 'to love one another as I have loved you.'

Engagement with difficult questions of meaning and purpose which everyone has to face enables our children to think critically about their own questions of meaning and purpose.

Domestic Church - Family	Explore	About the love and care shown in the family
	Reveal	About God's love and care for every family
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the
Judaism Week Stories	Look	We all have stories
	Discover	Abraham and Moses, leaders of the Jewish people
	Respect	Abraham and Moses, leaders of the Jewish people
Baptism/Confirmation – Belonging	Explore	About belonging to different groups
	Reveal	That Baptism is an invitation to belong to God's family
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above
Advent/Christmas - Loving	Explore	About the times that it is necessary to wait and the use of that time
	Reveal	That Advent is a time of waiting to celebrate Jesus' coming at Christmas
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation celebration and application of the above – Respond
Local Church – Community	Explore	That there are special people in our lives who are there to help
	Reveal	That on Sunday in church, we meet people who do special jobs as we gather to celebrate the Good News of Jesus
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above
Eucharist – Relating	Explore	Families and groups

		share special meals
	Reveal	Mass as Jesus' special meal
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above

Lent/Easter – Giving	Explore	That we change and grow
	Reveal	Lent; a time to change in preparation for the celebration of Easter
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above

Pentecost - Serving	Explore	Holidays as days to be happy
	Reveal	Pentecost; a holy day – the feast of the Holy Spirit
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above

Reconciliation – Inter-relating	Explore	We have choice sometimes we choose well and sometimes wrongly
	Reveal	God helps us to choose well and to be sorry. God forgives us
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above

Multi Faith Week Sikhism -	Look	Enjoy stories
	Discover	Guru Nanak
	Respect	Guru Nanak was a wise teacher

Universal Church – World	Explore	Neighbours all around
	Reveal	Everyone is our neighbour and is loved by God
	Respond	Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above