

THE FEDERATION OF ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Religious Education Guidance

Year 2

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.

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| Domestic Church - Family | Explore | The many beginnings each day offers |
| | Reveal | God is present in every beginning |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above |

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| Judaism Week Prayer/Home | Look | Families gather |
| | Discover | Shabbat |
| | Respect | Shabbat the day for God, the day of rest |

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| Baptism/Confirmation – Belonging | Explore | Experience of signs and symbols |
| | Reveal | Signs and symbols used in Baptism |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above |

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| Advent/Christmas - Loving | Explore | Preparing for special times |
| | Reveal | Advent four weeks of preparation for the celebration of Jesus at Christmas |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above |

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| Local Church – Community | Explore | About the different books used at home and in school |
| | Reveal | The books used in Church on Sunday by the parish family |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above |

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| Eucharist – Relating | Explore | Different ways to say thank you |
| | Reveal | The Eucharist: the parish family thanks God for Jesus |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation celebration and application of the above |

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| Lent/Easter – Giving | Explore | Each day offers opportunities for good |
| | Reveal | Lent, the opportunity to turn towards what is good in preparation for Easter |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation celebration and application of the above |

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| Pentecost - Serving | Explore | Passing on messages |
| | Reveal | Pentecost, spreading the Gospel message through the gift of the Holy Spirit |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation celebration and application of the above |

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| Reconciliation – Inter-relating | Explore | How rules can help at home and in school |
| | Reveal | The reasons for rules in the Christian family |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation, celebration and application of the above |

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| Multi Faith Week Hinduism | Look | Quiet times |
| | Discover | Puja |
| | Respect | Prayer is part of Hindu life |

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| Universal Church – World | Explore | What we treasure |
| | Reveal | The world is God's treasure given to us |
| | Respond | Acquire the skills of assimilation celebration and application of the above |