

Statutory

Religious Education Policy

Purley CofE Primary School

Date of policy: November 2023

Review Cycle: Every 2 years

Reviewed By: Ethos & Wellbeing Committee

Last Reviewed: Autumn 2025

Approved By: Full Governing Board Autumn 2025

Next review date: Autumn 2027

Learn to love, love to learn



'Let all that you do be done with love', 1 Corinthians 16:14

Change History

Version	Date	Description	Change ID
1.0	February 2018	Updated Religious Education Policy	Clerk
2.0	Autumn 2023	Updated Religious Education Policy	AH
3.0	October 2025	Updated Religious Education Policy	LB

RE plays an important part in expressing the Christian vision of Purley Primary School. RE reflects the ethos and values that are held and promotes understanding of people of all faiths and worldviews. RE has the same high status as any other subject and contributes to the overall development of our pupils from all backgrounds and traditions.

Our mission at Purley CofE Primary School is to ensure everyone is nurtured as individuals to shine brightly with confidence to be the best version of themselves. Provision for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is at the centre of all we do and promoted through three core values: Love, Courage and Wisdom

- Through our value of love, we hope to inspire the children to love God, love themselves, love one another and love learning.
- Through our value of courage we hope to guide our children to accept the things they cannot change and have the courage to change the things they can (Serenity Prayer).
- Through our value of wisdom we aim to encourage our children to make the right choices in life.

Our Biblical reference, woven into our teaching and collective worship:

- "Let all that you do be done with love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

The Legal Position

Every maintained school in England must provide a basic curriculum (inclusive of RE, sex education and the National Curriculum). This includes provision for RE for all registered pupils at the school. As a voluntary controlled school, RE is taught in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus with Pan Berkshire (linked [here](#)), whilst also reflecting the requirements of the Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education published by the Education Office of the Church of England in February 2019. The statutory section 48 (SIAMS) inspection will evaluate the way that RE contributes to the Christian character of the school as well as the priority, provision and quality of the curriculum.

The Purpose and Aims of Religious Education

The purpose of RE is to teach children about the religious and non-religious worldviews that they will encounter in modern Britain and enable them to engage in meaningful and considered dialogue with those of all faiths and worldviews, whether religious or non-religious; this is religious literacy.

Therefore, the aims of RE at Purley are:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews, appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.

- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking.

Curriculum Planning and Delivery

- The RE curriculum at Purley follows the Locally Agreed Syllabus (Pan Berkshire). Christianity is taught in every year group, with key concepts revisited on a spiral curriculum. At least 50% of the time is devoted to Christianity. Other religions are covered according to the syllabus, e.g. Judaism in KS1, Hinduism, Sikhism and Islam in KS2.
- The total time for RE is between 5% and 10%, and it is taught in dedicated lessons/blocks/cross-curricular settings as appropriate. The time dedicated to RE is separate from the time given to Collective Worship. In KS1 this will amount to approximately 36 hours per year; in KS2 this rises to 45 hours per year.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

RE is taught using an enquiry based approach, that is challenging and robust. Learning is organised to encourage the development of attitudes such as self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder, as well as providing opportunities to engage appropriately with Fundamental British Values. All faiths are treated respectfully, and opportunities will be made to engage in age-appropriate, meaningful discussion. Where possible, pupils will encounter believers and visit places of worship.

A variety of resources, styles, and techniques will be used as appropriate to enable all children to make progress in RE regardless of their starting points, ability or background. This policy is drawn up with due regard to and operates within the school's *Equal Opportunities Policy*.

Assessment procedures will follow those of the Agreed Syllabus and be in accordance with other assessment and feedback procedures in the school. Students will engage in a variety of activities which will also enable teachers to assess what they have learnt, as well as the quality of the curriculum. Records kept will include information about pupils' experiences and judgements about their progress, as well as being used to inform planning.

Withdrawal from religious education

Pupils may be withdrawn from RE or part of RE by a parent or guardian in accordance with Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. However, we hope that all parents and teachers will feel comfortable with the type of religious education being taught at this school. Parents who wish to withdraw their children must provide written notification to this effect and provide suitable activities for their children. The school will keep pupils safe but will not provide any work or reading material for pupils who have been withdrawn.