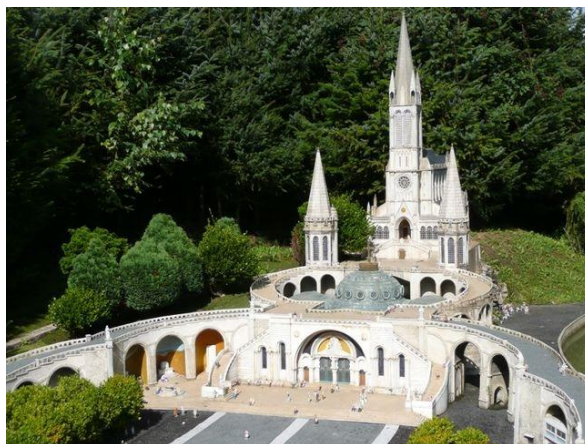




Religious Education Policy
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School

We can do great things with God's Love!



RE POLICY

At Our Lady of Lourdes which is a voluntary aided Catholic Primary School the teaching of RE is in line with the Diocese of Salford's Guidelines in Religious Education.

We aim to help every pupil to develop in RE to their full capacity. We understand that children come to school from varying backgrounds and have different concepts, knowledge and understanding and when they come to school are not all at the same starting point on their journey in faith.

It is our intention to develop that knowledge and understanding, develop gifts, potential for relationship, powers of thought and feeling, thirst for knowledge, the ability to pray and reflect, choose and form judgements, and to grow towards fullness of human living.

As our Mission Statement reflects, RE has a central role in the school curriculum and we look for opportunities in each curriculum area to underline the values taught in RE.

Religious Education is the 'core of the curriculum' (Pope John Paul II) because at the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person. This vision is expressed and explored in religious education. Therefore, religious education is never simply one subject among many, but the foundation of the entire educational process. (Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales). Our teaching is not only evident in Religious lessons and in prayer and liturgy, but it underpins all we teach, and the way we teach, across the curriculum. It is evident every day in the classroom, in the attitudes and skills we attempt to foster in our children. It permeates all areas of the curriculum. We aim to develop, in a Catholic atmosphere, qualities of mind, body and spirit in order to prepare our children to face the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Statement of Aims

Our Lady of Lourdes School seeks to promote the growth towards the wholeness of all those who share its life, a wholeness which comes through free response to God, who has called each person into being and by whom all are loved and sustained.

Our Religious Education programme at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School will allow our children to:

- Grow in knowledge and Understanding of the Christian story and vision, message the Catholic way of life, in ways appropriate to the age, stage and development of the child.
- Grow and explore a set of beliefs, values and actions, underpinned by Catholic tradition, and further enriched by the recognition and respect of other faith traditions.
- Grow their capacity for awe, wonder, reverence and imagination for the spiritual.

Objectives

- To enable children to have opportunities for active reflection upon their own and others' experiences, beginning to establish their own set of beliefs, values and actions.
- To provide children with the language of religious experience through places, stories, symbols, rituals, people and objects.

- To enable children to become religiously literate, defined as “the knowledge, understanding and skills to reflect spiritually, think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment of everyday life.” (RE Curriculum Directory 2012)
- To develop a social conscience through the inclusion of a global church dimension and the work of CAFOD.
- To support the work of the local parish in educating children in the catholic faith.
- To enable children to respect and recognise the diversity of beliefs and teachings in other faith traditions, explicitly learning about Judaism and Islam.
- To provide training and support for the RE coordinator and all members of staff, through the Salford Diocese Education Department to ensure understanding of the underlying theological and educational principles.

The Religious Education Programme

Central to our planning and teaching of the Religious Education Curriculum is the Salford Diocese approved teaching scheme, Come and See. This allows us to plan our teaching with imagination and flexibility in relation to the particular circumstance of the school. The programme will be informed by a range of teaching styles and will enable teachers to select from or devise appropriate learning experiences. We endeavour to be creative and use co-operative learning techniques to promote children's progress.

Marking children's work will be approached positively and constructively so that it affirms and celebrates success and encourages future learning. We aim to give consistent, frequent, helpful and encouraging feedback to our pupils about aspects of their progress.

Planning

As Religious Education is considered to be the core of the Core Curriculum, it is allocated a total teaching time of 10% of available curriculum time for each year group.

RE is taught using the Salford Diocese's approved scheme, Come and see. This syllabus sets out the themes of the study as well as aims and objectives for each half term in all year groups from Foundation to Year 6. Short term planning is based on unit plans relevant to each year group. Formative assessment is ongoing.

We will recognise and appreciate the faiths of others. This is evident in cross curricular planning, celebration days and explicit multi-faith teaching.

Assessment, Monitoring, Recording and Reporting

Good assessment strategies will be rooted in effective planning.

We recognise that assessment, recording and reporting are a natural part of teaching and are integral to the learning process. They are continuous processes requiring a close partnership between teachers and pupils, and the involvement of others as appropriate. They are the responsibility of all teachers. Assessments are ongoing through the topics rather than a stand-alone assessment piece.

Progress and achievement in Religious Education is reported to Governor's at the end of each academic year through the RE Lead's and Head teacher's report.

Progress and achievement in Religious Education is reported to parents/carers in a written report at the end of each academic year.

Pupils are asked their opinions about RE, Collective worship and the Catholic Life and Mission of the school in pupil interviews/ questionnaires at regular points through the year. These are also reported to Governor's.

Resources

RE resources are stored in classrooms. There is a central source where specialist books and resources are located in the hall.

Equal Opportunities

We strive to provide equality of opportunity for all, regardless of intellect, race or gender.

Special Educational Needs

We are committed to meeting the needs of all pupils including those with special educational needs. We recognise that each pupil has the right to be regarded as having equal value and worth.

SEND- Ambition and Access in RE	
Ambition – What are we aiming for children with SEND to achieve in this subject?	Access-What amendments have we made in the teaching of RE in order to help children with SEND achieve?
We are ambitious in what our SEND children can achieve. We want children with SEND to take ownership of their own learning. We have high expectations of what a SEND pupil can understand or explain during RE lessons. RE is an opportunity for SEND children to explain their own thoughts and beliefs, which is not limited. Individual children's barriers should be considered for the specific support needed however: linking the concrete with the abstract should allow all children to understand other's beliefs as well as their own.	• Knowledge organisers – documenting key vocabulary and pictures adapted if necessary. • Spots placed against the vocabulary that are essential for SEND to know. • Revisit and revise key information at the beginning of each lesson. • iPad to record pictures/learning during lesson. • RE big book – documenting thoughts, ideas and beliefs of all children not just SEND. • Visual links to keywords/festivals/artefacts to assist children to make links with the concepts/beliefs of a religion. • Mixed ability grouping-to enable all to take an active part. Pairings include children that would engage together, that would encourage conversations when discussing their opinions or beliefs. • Support in class for SEND children to enable them to share their opinions/beliefs clearly to their peers. • Where reading is a concern- follow guidance/adaptations on reading page and apply to RE lessons • If writing is a barrier- reduce amount of writing/staff scribe/pictures of work/practical work. • Use art work- debates to engage all learners- use a variety of teaching styles and activities.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School strives to be a welcoming, caring school at the service of the community. We endeavour to serve the needs of each pupil, recognising their value in the school, the home and the community, enabling each to fulfil, his or her potential.

Each person should experience understanding and forgiveness, based on the principle that each person is valued as an individual, and given the dignity and respect afforded throughout the Gospels. Parents, children and all visitors should experience this welcome on first coming into the school. All teaching and non-teaching staff members should provide good role models, in accordance with our school values. Throughout the school and in all areas of the curriculum, opportunities should be taken to develop social skills and discuss the moral implications of action.

Evaluation of Religious Education

The RE policies are reviewed and updated by the RE coordinator in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body. Any changes are put to whole staff before being implemented.

Reviewing and updating the Mission Statement is carried out in consultation with staff, pupils and governors on an annual basis.

It is our intention to review this current policy in July 2025 to move in line with any curriculum changes/new schemes to be implemented with RECD in 2025/2026.