



# Sandiway Primary School

## Religious Education Policy

January 2022



Sandiway Primary School is a small primary school, serving children in the age range of 4 to 11 years. We deliver Religious Education (RE) in line with the Cheshire West and Chester Diocesan guidelines.

Sandiway Primary School recognises and values the religious backgrounds and non-religious backgrounds of each of our pupils. We intend to be sensitive to the home background of all and therefore work to ensure that RE is accessible to all pupils and teachers of any religious persuasion or none.

We have a strong understanding of how RE can play a leading role in pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. At Sandiway Primary School we know how relationships with members of local communities and local faith communities can enrich pupils' experiences in RE and we strive to cultivate and maintain these relationships.

### Legal requirements

RE at Sandiway will meet legal requirements by:

- its inclusion in the curriculum of all registered pupils. In primary school, this is a requirement for all pupils in Reception to Year 6;
- reflecting the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;
- teaching RE in accordance with Cheshire West and Chester guidelines.

### Aims

Our aims of RE are that pupils will:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom;
- develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
  - developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them;
  - responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience;
  - reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study.
- develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

### Time Allocation.

It is recommended that RE is taught for a minimum of 36 hours per year at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two. RE curriculum time does not include assembly or

collective worship, even when the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not RE.

### **Scheme of Work**

A detailed scheme of work is available for teachers and other interested people alongside this policy. It has been written in the light of the Cheshire West and Chester scheme of work.

### **Teaching and Learning Strategies**

Our policy is to aim to ensure the use in RE of art, drama, thinking skills, speaking and listening activities, visits, posters, photographs, videos, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies. Cross curricular work is encouraged, in line with whole school policy on teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of teaching to the Agreed Syllabus in a creative, knowledge-rich, broad and balanced way.

### **Visits and visitors**

We are able to visit places of worship in the immediate vicinity of the school, where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in the teaching of RE. We aim to use this valuable resource for all classes. All pupils have the opportunity to visit a place of worship and participate in the visit of a representative to their RE class.

### **Matching Work to Pupils' Needs**

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special needs and differentiation, applies to RE. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational ability.

### **Assessment**

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in RE to parents, as required by law. school has agreed to use as a basis for reporting at the end of each key stage. We make specific, individual, accurate comments on each child's progress in RE in annual reports, based on regular monitoring of children's work and learning walks.

### **Withdrawal**

We note the Human Right of parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff.

Teachers are asked to refer to the Headteacher any questions from parents about withdrawals. Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RE should be made in writing to the Headteacher and a record kept of them.

RE subject leader: Kathryn Handley

Headteacher: Chris Priddey

Date: January 2022

Date for review: January 2024