

St Paul's Church of England Primary School

an academy in the Good Shepherd Trust



RE Policy

Date adopted:	1.1.26	Last reviewed:	
Review cycle:	2 Years	Is this policy statutory?	No
Approval:	Louise Kaye	Author:	Emily Peacock
Local approval*:	1.1.26	Local author*:	
Next review Date	1.1.28		

* only for policy/procedures that are templates and require local adaptation.

Revision record

Minor revisions should be recorded here when the policy is amended in light of changes to legislation or to correct errors. Significant changes or at the point of review should be recorded below and approved at the level indicated above.

Revision No.	Date	Revised by	Approved date	Comments

Mission Statement

At St Paul's, we ignite a passion for life and learning in every member of our school community by providing the best possible education, where children and adults grow through our FAITH values, Friendship and Cooperation, Achievement of Excellent, Integrity, Trust and Respect, and Health and Wellbeing, and confidently succeed through the strength and love of God.

Vision Statement

Rooted in Jesus' teaching and guided by our Christian vision, we nurture academic, emotional, and spiritual growth for all. We believe every child is created in the image of God, uniquely gifted and deeply valued. Through our FAITH values, we encourage all to flourish, reflect, and aspire to become the people God calls them to be.

The Nature of Religious Education at St Paul's

As a Church of England school, Religious Education is taught in accordance with the rites, practices, and doctrines of the Church of England. RE is central to the life of the school and plays a key role in expressing and strengthening our Christian vision and ethos.

RE at St Paul's:

- Enables pupils to explore Christian belief deeply and theologically
- Encourages respect for the diverse worldviews represented in our community
- Supports pupils in developing curiosity, reflection, and spiritual awareness
- Helps pupils understand how faith shapes identity, values, and action

The school follows the Diocese of Guildford RE Syllabus, ensuring a curriculum that is theologically robust, broad, and inclusive.

The Diocese recommends that:

- RE is taught for at least 5% of curriculum time although we strive for 10%
- Christianity forms the majority of study
- Other major world faiths are taught in ways that deepen understanding and dialogue

Aims of Religious Education

In line with the Church of England Statement of Entitlement (2019), RE at St Paul's aims to:

- Enable every child to flourish and live life in all its fullness
- Educate for dignity and respect, encouraging all to live well together
- Develop a deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief, practice, and theology
- Explore the nature of religious language, symbolism, and expression
- Value pupils' own beliefs while introducing them to a range of world faiths and worldviews
- Provide opportunities to encounter Christian faith and worship
- Explore Christianity as a global, diverse faith
- Engage pupils with challenging questions about meaning, purpose, and truth
- Support spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development

RE nurtures pupils' ability to reflect, reason, empathise, and respond thoughtfully to big questions.

Curriculum Content and Approach

The RE curriculum is based on the Diocese of Guildford Syllabus. Teachers follow the long-term plan set by the subject leader, ensuring progression and coherence across the school.

The curriculum:

- Places Christianity at the centre
- Includes structured teaching about Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Buddhism
- Uses enquiry-based learning-based learning
- Integrates theological, philosophical, and human social approaches-social approaches
- Provides opportunities for creativity, reflection, and discussion

Collective worship may complement RE but does not replace curriculum time.

Progression and Monitoring

RE is monitored termly by the subject leader and evaluated against the school improvement plan. Monitoring may include:

- Lesson observations
- Book looks and Big Question book looks
- Pupil voice
- Planning scrutiny
- Assessment outcomes

Special Educational Needs

RE is inclusive and accessible to all pupils. Teachers adapt activities to meet the needs of learners, including those with SEND, ensuring that every child can engage meaningfully with the curriculum.

Assessment

Assessment in RE is based on the Diocese of Guildford expectations and the Understanding Christianity framework. Teachers assess pupils' progress through:

- Class discussions
- Written work
- Creative responses
- Enquiry outcomes

Progress is reported to parents through end of year reports. Half termly, whole school tracking on Arbor, supports monitoring of progress over time.

Resources

The school maintains a range of high quality resources to support RE, including:

- Diocese of Guildford materials
- Artefacts and resource for major world faiths
- Digital resources from the Diocese of Guildford
- Books, images, and stories from diverse traditions

The subject leader oversees the organisation and updating of resources.

Collective Worship Links

Collective Worship reinforces and enriches RE by:

- Exploring Christian festivals and stories
- Celebrating diversity within the school community
- Providing opportunities for reflection and prayer

Collective Worship does not replace RE but complements it.

Partnership with St Paul's Church

St Paul's Church is an active and valued partner in the life of our school. Our relationship is rooted in our shared Christian vision and in a commitment to nurture the spiritual flourishing of every member of our community. The clergy and church community support the school through prayer, presence, and participation, helping pupils to experience Christian faith as a living tradition.

Clergy from St Paul's lead and support Collective Worship, contribute to RE teaching, and work alongside staff to deepen theological understanding. Pupils visit the church regularly for worship, learning, and celebration, enabling them to experience the Christian year, explore sacred space, and understand the role of the church in the local community.

The partnership extends beyond curriculum time. The church hosts school services, welcomes families to parish events, and provides pastoral support to the school community. Through this relationship, pupils see how Christian faith is lived out in service, hospitality, and community life.

This partnership strengthens the school's Christian vision, enriches RE and Collective Worship, and helps pupils understand that they are part of a wider Christian family. It also supports the SIAMS expectation that church and school work together to enable the spiritual flourishing of children and adults

Staff Training

Staff receive training through diocesan courses, in school CPD, and support from clergy. Training ensures teachers are confident in delivering high quality RE rooted in Christian theology and inclusive of diverse worldviews, school CPD, and support from clergy. Training ensures teachers are confident in delivering high-quality RE rooted in Christian theology and inclusive of diverse worldviews.