



Religious Education Policy- Appendix

Context

We are a Church of England Primary School which was formerly voluntary controlled. We are proud to be part of Peterborough Diocese Academy Trust (PDET) since August 2014. The leadership structure of the school consists of the Headteacher and a recently appointed Senior Teacher and an Academy Governance Committee. We have a strong relationship with our Diocesan Support Consultant who has been instrumental in supporting our school to develop its Christian distinctiveness to enable people to flourish.

We are located in rural Northamptonshire and were Awarded Good: Ofsted (March 2023); Awarded Outstanding: SIAMS inspection (2017).

We are much smaller than the average size primary school with currently 99 children on roll. The vast majority of children, over 90%, attend from the nearest town of Daventry, outside the priority area of the parishes of Staverton, Hellidon and Catesby. IDACI score (2022) is 0.045 indicating that there are low levels of deprivation in the village - lower than many surrounding wards. The community which we serve is not ethnically, culturally or socially diverse. We have low Pupil Premium numbers and a growing percentage of children with SEND, some of whom have complex needs.

We have close links with our church St Mary's and Reverend Dave leads Collective Worship in school and we frequently visit church. We also have links with The Lighthouse Trust whose vision is to connect children and young people to themselves, others and God and to support the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of children to help build a framework to which the future values of our children can be shaped. We also have links with CSALT (Christian School Assembly Link Team) who frequently visit our school to lead Collective Worship.

Our school vision

"Above all be loving, this ties everything together perfectly." Colossians 3:14

We are building what we value and everything we do is done with love. Our six school values of responsibility, friendship, honesty, compassion, respect and perseverance are all underpinned by our one all-encompassing value of love. Adults and children are known and loved and our vision guides us to live our values every day and inspire a love of learning.

LIVE LOVE

Live: Leading, Inspiring, Voyaging, Educating

Love: Live Our Values Everyday - Respect - Compassion - Perseverance - Honesty - Friendship - Responsibility

We provide opportunities through our curriculum and school life so that children will:

- lead and become leaders,
- be inspired and inspire others,

- voyage beyond the classroom to learn about, experience, and care for the wider world,
- educate them within the curriculum and life knowledge and skills,
- use the teachings of Jesus to guide their decisions with strong morals. Be the best that we can be.

Our school Mission Statement

Staverton is a nurturing and aspirational church school, offering an excellent education to inspire a love of learning and shared energy to continually get better. Our vision is rooted in theology and educational philosophy, to support our children to flourish academically, spiritually, emotionally and socially. We are united in our vision having a transformational impact on the wellbeing of our whole school community. Relationships at Staverton are trusted and all successes celebrated, valuing the unique qualities of each and every one of us in our school community. We prepare our children for life beyond our doors, instilling strong Christian values to guide them to live life in all its fullness.

Intent

At Staverton Primary school we believe that RE goes beyond a sociological study of religious phenomena. We aim to provide our children with a balanced curriculum with a range of relevant disciplines including theology, philosophy and the human and social sciences. We want our children to have a broad and deep understanding of Christianity as a global diverse religion as well as understanding alternative world views. Primarily we want our children to learn about and from religion and ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. We include and promote British values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens.

Implementation

RE plays a key role in the education of children in Staverton Primary School. RE is taught by a qualified teacher for one hour each week. 50% of curriculum time is dedicated to the teaching of Christianity with the remainder of time covering the World faiths of Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism.

The coverage across each key stage is as follows:

EYFS (Discovering)- Introduction to Christianity, key religious stories and an introduction to religion and world views based on their own experiences. We discuss special stories, places and develop a sense of belonging.

KS1 (Exploring)- Extending their understanding of Christianity. Through thematic studies children are introduced to belonging in Christianity alongside Islam and Judaism. They then explore these in discrete units.

LKS2 (Connecting)- Develop their understanding of Christianity, with the introduction of 2 additional world faiths (Hinduism and Sikhism). Children make connections with previous learning and extend their understanding with a thematic study on commitments across the religious groups covered so far.

UKS2 (Connecting)- Children expand their understanding of Christianity by challenging their own and others' beliefs. They also discuss religious and non-religious beliefs in different communities. Building on their learning in KS1, they explore the Muslim and Jewish faith further and learn about pilgrimage and how different faiths deal with good times and bad.

We follow the Diocese of Peterborough syllabus for RE in addition to Understanding Christianity resources.

Teaching of RE in our school is engaging and active. Learning is adapted to ensure all children achieve the high standards expected. High quality artefacts are used alongside visits to places of worship including our local village church of St Mary's.

We assess our children's understanding during our Understanding of Christianity units where children are given the opportunity to see links and make connections in their learning.

Impact

Children will have the knowledge and understanding to grapple with diversity within religion and their own beliefs. They will gain both substantive and disciplinary knowledge over time which they will take with them into the next step of their education. Through our teaching the children will make sense of the text and beliefs covered, understand the impact of these and make connections throughout. They will see their value in an everchanging world and show our values of respect, compassion, perseverance, honesty, friendship and responsibility in their daily lives.

Additional links and information

Lighthouse Trust

- Inset day on staff wellbeing
- Two transition days for children in Y6 to help them prepare for transition - prayer space afternoon and drama workshop
- Coming in summer 24 to do a drama workshop
- Lead Collective Worship termly

Visits to church

- Harvest collection for church
- Christmas as a whole school - Christingle
- School choir sings with church choir in the evening carol concert every year
- Easter service
- Y6 leavers
- Rev Dave leads Collective Worship in school termly
- In June 24 school will open on a Sunday for a church service

CSALT

- Lead termly Collective Worship

Visits

- Diwali Festival of Light - Roses 2023 (had a workshop in school to build the lanterns for the parade)
- BAPS Wellingborough Mandir

Staverton Trust

- Funded whole school vision merino art mural
- Bibles of they Y6 children

Diversity

- Books represent diversity
- Weekly collective worship on Diversity (could snip and include this?)

Collective Worship

We have this at the end of every day to bring our whole school together before we leave to go home. We always try to give the children something to take away with them.

Monday - Values

Tuesday - Diversity

Wednesday - Class

Thursday - Sing and Praise

Friday - Celebration