



<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY</b>
Committee responsible	Ethos
Last reviewed	February 2018
Next review due	February 2019
Who is governed by this policy	All staff and pupils at the school
Available on website	<b>YES</b>

Signed .....  
 (Chair of Governors)

Signed .....  
 (Headteacher)

Date .....

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

## 1. Rationale

1.1 Religious education enables children to investigate and reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people. At Warnham CE Primary School we develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths, and we address the fundamental questions in life, for example, the meaning of life and the existence of a divine spirit. We enable children to develop a sound knowledge of Christianity and other world religions. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We help the children learn from religions as well as about religions.

## 2. Legal entitlement

2.1 RE is statutory for all children; it is an important part of our school's spiritual, moral and social teaching. It promotes education for citizenship.

2.1 Parents have the right to request that their child / children do not participate in this area of the curriculum. This request should be in writing and kept in the child/ children's file. The child / children will be given alternative work to be done during this period within the class.

## 3. Aims

3.1 The aims of religious education are to help children:

- develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions and value systems
- develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences of others
- develop investigative and research skills to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues
- have respect for other people's views and to celebrate diversity in society

## 4. Teaching and Learning

4.1 Our teaching enables children to extend their own sense of values and promotes their spiritual growth and development. We encourage children to think about their own views and values in relation to the themes and topics studied in the RE curriculum.

4.2 We enable our children to build on their own experiences and extend their knowledge and understanding of religious traditions.

## 5. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

5.1 Through teaching religious education in our school, we provide opportunities for spiritual development. Children consider and respond to questions concerning the meaning and purpose of

life. We help them to recognise the difference between right and wrong through the study of moral and ethical questions. We enhance their social development by helping them to build a sense of identity in a multicultural society. Children explore issues of religious faith and values and, therefore they develop their knowledge and understanding of the cultural context of their lives; developing an understanding of themselves enabling them to empathise with and respect others.

## **6. Curriculum**

6.1 Our curriculum is based upon Christian beliefs and traditions as well as exploring other faiths.

6.2 In Foundation Stage, KS1 and KS2 we plan in accordance with the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus and the *Understanding Christianity* scheme of work in line with Diocesan guidelines. Topics studied build upon prior learning. We offer opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge and we ensure that the planned progression built into the scheme of work offers the children an increasing challenge as they move through the school.

## **7. Assessment and Recording**

7.1 Teachers use a variety of means of assessing pupil's work in line with the assessment policy and the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus. This includes:

- the regular reviewing of pupil's work
- observing the work of groups and individuals and recording the outcomes
- assessing against the RE progression of skills
- assessing against Age Related Expectations (ARE) designed by the school while awaiting further advice from the Diocese

## **8. Monitoring and Review**

8.1 The Ethos committee will be involved in monitoring RE within the school.