





St Augustine's Catholic Primary School A Voluntary Academy Religious Education Policy

Name of School	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School
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Weblink for this policy	https://www.st-augustines.halton.sch.uk/policies/
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Date policy becomes effective	December 2022
Review date	December 2024
Signed - Headteacher	John Marciniak (Interim Head Teacher)
Signed – Chair of governing body	Toni Woodhead

Our Mission Statement is : 'Let Your Light Shine'

Matthew 5:16

In line with our behaviour policy, based on respect, we recognise that in every moment - even the less balanced ones, every pupil is unique and is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). We reflect back to the children the truth that they are inherently good - especially in their moments of difficulty. In this way we model and teach the fundamental truths of freedom, tolerance, respect and equality - the bedrock of a successful society.

The teaching of RE is designed to enable pupils to understand the world around them and follow our Gospel values so that they can manage their lives, now and in the future. We bring them to an understanding of 'community' and the importance of relationships within. We teach about how every member of a community has a contribution to make and that they should seek to maximise this. RE is seen as the 'life blood' of the school that feeds into all we do. It is delivered in two distinct ways:

We teach explicit (or curriculum) Religious Education in accordance with the Catholic faith – those timetabled or planned periods of time given to an explicit consideration of Religious Education in the classroom. It is the school policy in line with the Bishops' Conference recommendations that 10% of curriculum time is allocated to Religious Education. This does <u>not</u> include Collective Worship or RSE.

We use the 'The Way the Truth and the Life' programme of Religious Education. We support the teaching of RE by making regular visits to St Augustine's Church to attend Mass. We also make the most of the liturgical calendar ensuring children are familiar with the liturgical colours and events by providing the children with meaningful prayer experiences.

In addition,

The children contribute to a daily act of prayer in which they focus on Catholic spirituality and morality. Our Liturgical Prayer arrangements are detailed in our *Liturgical Prayer Policy.*

Develop understanding and recognition of the importance of prayer in our everyday lives.

A whole school Gospel Assembly at the start of the week.

We explore other faiths

We explore cultural diversity through our RE curriculum and by recognising significant events (e.g. Chinese New Year).

We build an awareness of safety, teaching the children how to measure risk and guiding them through tricky situations, such as bullying, fire safety etc.

We enable implicit or unstructured Religious Education – those opportunities which arise in the course of the school day to lead pupils through relationships to a religious understanding of their implications. It is the policy of our school to use such opportunities as they arise. We nurture an ethos which is rooted in:

Anti-discrimination.

The development of a positive home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents, teachers and the wider community to work in an effective partnership to make sure that we give our children the best possible environment in which to grow, flourish and learn.

All adults will model expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for children and their families. Helping others less fortunate than us. An essential part of our RE is encouraging the children to support those who are less well off than they are. The main charities that are supported by the school are as follows: Society of St Vincent de Paul, Foodbank, Hospice, CAFOD and other appeals which arise and link with our fundraising themes.

The modelling of good citizenship.

The striving for independence.

Building and maintaining high levels of confidence and self-esteem.

Assessment, Monitoring, Recording and Reporting

Children's work is assessed, recorded and reported.

Assessment of standards is carried out according to Diocesan guidelines using the criteria set out by the Catholic Education Service.

Each teacher keeps a class record of assessed work and records of pupils' progress.

The school portfolio of pupils' work contains samples of work from each teacher for each assessed topic covering a range of abilities.

The school portfolio of assessed samples of work is available for inspection.

Monitoring of teaching and learning is carried out through lesson observations and book look each term.

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

There are areas in each classroom which act as a focal point for daily prayer and reflect the current topic.

During Y3 the children receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.