



VISION

We recognise that Christ is at the centre of our school and the teaching of Religious Education is at the heart of the curriculum and ethos of St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School. This permeates through every aspect of school life. We believe that, through example and teaching, our children will come to know of God's love and compassion for everyone, and work towards living by the Gospel values following the example that Jesus gave us to "Love one another as I have loved you." We hope to foster a sensitive and reflective attitude to life.

We firmly believe that

"Our school is a place where we Love, Learn, Believe and Achieve together in the spirit of Jesus"

The aim of Religious Education in St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School is to provide a programme that takes into account the religious and educational needs of all our children. It is a collaborative activity, which respects and promotes the child's innate capacity for wonder, awe and reverence i.e. for the 'spiritual'.

Our aims are:

- For RE to be a core subject central to the life of our school, taught discreetly and developmentally.
- To present engagingly a comprehensive content which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.
- To respect the child's innate capacity for awe, wonder, reverence and imagination and to enable them to think critically about questions for meaning and purpose.
- To support our children in taking their first steps on their faith journey.
- To teach the Catholic faith and to foster commitment to that faith.
- To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to respect and understand them.
- To encourage the children in a loving and caring attitude toward family, friends, classmates, teachers and all with whom they come in contact.
- To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum.
- To bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.
- To celebrate through worship and liturgy in a way appropriate to their age.



CURRICULUM STATEMENT

We follow the Religious Education programme recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool, 'Come and See'. It is engaging, inspiring and challenges our children's thinking.

The programme was developed to respond to the needs of children today in their faith journey, to enable them to grow in their religious literacy and understanding in a way that is coherent with current educational principles. It is designed to support teachers in their delivery of religious education. It integrates the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the new Religious Education Curriculum Directory. At the heart of the programme is the mystery of God's self-revelation of love through Jesus Christ. Come and See gives pupils the opportunity to explore the mystery of faith through Scripture and Tradition.

Throughout a pupil's school journey, they will each have the opportunity to explore different faiths and religions as part of this curriculum.

Please see our Religious Education Handbook which outlines our approach to teaching R.E. at St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School.

Curriculum Intent:

Religious Education makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children and supports wider community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in our diverse society.

The Religious Education scheme of work followed in school is called 'Come and See.' This is a programme that has been adopted nationally in Catholic schools across England and Wales. The programme was developed to respond to the needs of children today in their faith journey. At the heart of the programme is the mystery of God's self-revelation of love through Jesus Christ. 'Come and See' gives pupils the opportunity to explore the mystery of faith through Scripture and Tradition.

For all children the programme will raise questions and provide material for reflecting on their own experience. It will help them to explore the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition and where appropriate of other Faith traditions. For those from committed families, it will deepen and enrich their understanding and living of their faith.

Our daily Collective Worship provides experiences which encourage an awareness of and a compassion for the needs of the world's community, foster a sense of joy, awe and wonder in all of God's creation, affirm and develop the individual and to build and encourage a sense of worth, whilst celebrating the values of the Gospels. Each week we celebrate the success during Collective Worship when children have the opportunity to share their achievements in Star of the Week assemblies.

At St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School, we are proud of our strong links to the parishes of St Paul and St Timothy and we work closely with our parish community.



Curriculum Implementation:

At St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School we follow the 'Come and See' Religious Education Programme in line with guidance from the Liverpool Archdiocese. This programme is followed throughout school from Reception through to Year 2.

This programme provides:

- Opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection in implicit and explicit ways.
- Children with the language of religious experience - a 'literacy' in religious activities, places, stories, symbols and rituals, people and objects.
- A systematic presentation of Christian event, message and way of life' in ways appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child.
- That for its implementation and production it requires the adults involved to understand the underlying theological as well as educational principles.
- Appropriate materials about other faiths.
- Academic respectability as in other curricular areas – utilising appropriate stages from the National Curriculum.

The programme explores the religious dimensions of questions about life, dignity and purpose within the Catholic tradition. Links are made with the children's own experience and with universal experience. It will raise questions and provide material for reflection by the children on their own experiences. It will enable them to explore the beliefs, values and way of life of the Catholic tradition and where appropriate other faith traditions.

Overview of Content:

'Come and See' is taught through a series of 9 topics exploring:

Community of faith – Church

Celebration in ritual – Sacraments

Way of life – Christian Living

Other faith traditions are also explored through discreet topics.

The process for delivering the topics in 'Come and See' has three stages - Explore, Reveal and Respond which enable the pupils with the development of knowledge, understanding, skills and the fostering of attitudes. 10% of teaching time is dedicated to the teaching of RE.

The Process

Explore (1 week)

This is the introduction to the topic where the children's life experience is explored, the questions it raises are wondered at, shared, investigated and their significance reflected on.

Reveal (usually 2 weeks)

This is the heart of the programme where knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith is revealed through the Word, in Scripture, Tradition, doctrine, prayers, rites and Christian living.



Respond (1 week)

This is where the learning is assimilated, celebrated and responded to in daily life. This reflective work is collated in the class Celebration journals which travel up through the school with each class.

Other Faiths and Religions

Judaism is usually studied in the Autumn term; however this can vary due to the needs of the school. The other religion to be studied is either Hinduism, Islam or Sikhism – the religion focus is carefully selected with consideration given to the most relevant and appropriate in light of each class and current local, national or world-wide events

Curriculum Impact:

Ongoing informal assessment against the Standard Indicators and Formal Assessment Tasks set by the Archdiocese are used to inform planning and to identify areas for focus and support. Assessment is moderated internally and externally within cluster meetings.

We endeavour to make our school a place where God's love for us is shared and nurtured. A place where the teachings of Christ can be seen as relevant and active within each individual's experience ensuring our children leave us with not only a sound understanding of the word of God, but a sound understanding of how to live out the gospel values through their thoughts, words and actions, being true modern-day disciples.