

St Edward's Catholic Primary School



Whole School RE intent



Intent

As a Catholic school and we are committed to the Catholic Faith and promote the Gospel Values ensuring they are at the heart of all we say and do. We recognise and value every individual as special and unique in the image and likeness of God.

Religious Education at St Edward's respects and promotes each child's intrinsic capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and spirituality. Our Religious Education curriculum leads our children to aspire not to have more, but to be more and to "Be the best they can be". By helping them to live this faith, we hope to encourage our children to develop a better relationship with God and others around them. Central to our ethos are the opportunities for prayer and worship which lie at the heart of our faith. We will endeavour to promote and encourage these at every level, together with the skills and attitudes necessary to live out the Christian message in the modern world.

Children are taught about God's love; they learn about their Christian responsibilities; children are provided with experiences of church, Catholic and Christian traditions, as well as being taught to be respectful and understanding of people and traditions from other faith backgrounds. Through Religious Education our children learn about their unique place within the home, school and parish community. We recognise that everyone at St Edward's – children, staff and parents are on their own faith journey.

Implementation

Teaching and Learning

RE is a core subject at St Edward's. It is delivered through the Come and See Religious Education programme (supported by TenTen and Journey in Love). This programme is followed throughout the school from Reception to Year 6. In conjunction with these teaching we also encouraged links with home, the Parish Church, the local community and other subject areas, especially PSHE. We believe that all aspects of RE should be woven into the fabric of school life. The purpose of Religious Education at St Edward's is to nurture the Catholic Faith, and its teachings, in our children. This programme provides opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection in implicit and explicit ways. Children are provided with the language of religious experience; a 'systematic presentation of Christian events, messages and way of life' in ways appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child; and appropriate materials about other faiths. Links are made with the children's own experience and with universal experience. It raises questions and provide material for reflection by the children on their own experiences.

Over four years we will cover the following themes: Britain (Topic A), Europe (Topic B), Africa (Topic C) and Asia and South America (Topic D). During those topics we will explore a range of saints who are important to communities within these different continents. We hope that the exploration of these various saints will inspire the children in their work and allow them to follow and deepen their faith further.

In each lesson, you will see the four areas of learning displayed, encouraging children to be conscientious learners.

<p><u>Skills</u></p> <p>Each lesson identifies the key skills from the national curriculum that will develop children’s knowledge and understanding of what they need to be able to do in order to achieve in art. Children recognise the skills required to support their learning which are identified through the “footsteps” on their learning journey within each subject of the curriculum.</p>	<p><u>Learning Behaviours</u></p> <p>Each lesson identifies the key learning behaviours to guide the development of pupils’ social and emotional competencies, to support their learning. These are identified as the 5R’s:</p> <p><u>Resilient</u>: organisation, perseverance, focus.</p> <p><u>Reflective</u>: belonging, self-awareness, value, understanding feelings.</p> <p><u>Recognise</u>: knowledge of feelings, control impulses and express curiosity, manage feelings.</p> <p><u>Respect</u>: Equality, compassion, kindness</p> <p><u>Responsible</u>: Group work, responsibility, communication, Honesty, problem solve, takes risks.</p>
<p><u>Vocabulary</u></p> <p>Each lesson identifies key subject specific vocabulary as the acquisition of vocabulary is the basis for the development of all other skills. Starting with Early Language Development in EYFS, we continue to ensure children’s understanding of new vocabulary is supported throughout the school and across the whole curriculum.</p>	<p><u>Metacognition</u></p> <p>Also known as “Thinking Skills”.</p> <p>Each lesson identifies a key question that encourages children to be aware of their higher-order thinking skills. The children understand how they learn best and develop their ability to use strategies taught to them to progress their own learning and problem solving abilities. Through guidance from teachers and peers, they will be able to become independent, adaptive learners who can reflect upon their progress over time.</p>

Cross Curricular links

Alongside discrete lessons, there are a number of opportunities for RE across our curriculum for example exploring religious artwork or artefacts from history. Children are encouraged to explore and explain their understanding using varied mediums – written recounts, drama, IT and art.

Parental and Community links

Parent and community support is important to develop a well-rounded curriculum. Each year we celebrate many liturgical events either in school with parents, in church with parishioners or even within our wider community. Celebrations such as May Procession, Carols by Candlelight, Nativity and Easter celebrations are planned annually.

Impact

Each unit of work is planned to develop the children’s skills and build knowledge of key religious figures. Through the development of these skills, children’s knowledge and talents in the subject will develop year on year. Teachers will assess the children’s work throughout a unit against the national curriculum objectives. Peer and self-assessment, as well as verbal feedback, will provide children with advice and support throughout their unit to develop their work.