



*Tarleton Holy Trinity
Church of England
(Aided) Primary School*

www.tarletonholytrinity.org

Religious Education Policy

POLICY



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Religious Education Policy

This policy reflects the Christian ethos and vision statement of our school.

Our Mission Statement

Tarleton Holy Trinity Church of England (Aided) Primary School is a Christian Family where everyone is valued, we all achieve and our dreams for the future begin.

Religious Education Policy

Introduction:

At Tarleton Holy Trinity CE Primary School we strive to provide Religious Education of the highest standard, always aiming for excellence, reflecting our schools distinctive Christian character.

Our Religious Education supports the Mission statement and the aims and ethos of the school by upholding beliefs and values and encouraging every child to know his worth and his purpose.

Our Christian Values of Unconditional Love, Awe and Wonder, Friendship, Peace, Hope, Trust, Justice and Forgiveness, will permeate everything we say and everything we do as we learn and grow together.

The governing Body:

The Governing Body has adopted the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus for RE which reflects the National Framework for RE.

In our school, the management of RE is a distinctive role of the governors and head teacher. At Tarleton Holy Trinity CE Primary School, the Religious Education provided conforms with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England as laid down in the Trust Deed.

The Governing Body as a whole is responsible for determining the nature of Religious Education provided in its school.

NB: Although RE and Collective Worship naturally compliment and enrich one another they should be managed separately.

RE within Tarleton Holy Trinity:

RE in our school lies at the very heart of the curriculum. It has been agreed that:

- 5% of the curriculum time is devoted to RE.
- The Governing Body has agreed that the focus of Religious Education should be distinctly Christian with 20% of the time studying aspects of Judaism and Islam. Elements of other faiths will be discussed as and when appropriate.

At Tarleton Holy Trinity, it is essential that the RE curriculum maintains a balanced approach of Learning about Religion and Learning from Religion

This includes:

Learning about Religion (Attainment Target 1)

We learn about

- God who reveals the truth about himself and humanity through creation, the giving of the law, his action in history and through the prophets.
- God who reveals himself ultimately in Jesus his Son, living among us and dying and rising for us.
- God who reveals himself in his Spirit working in the living faith of the Church experienced through scripture, tradition and reason.

Learning from Religion (Attainment Target 2)

We learn from

- an empathetic response to the Christian faith and a critical engagement with it
- responding personally to the transforming power of Jesus Christ
- developing a vision for life that transcends a dull materialism and recognises the reality of the spiritual realm
- understanding ourselves and others, celebrating our shared humanity and the breadth of human achievement
- examples of Christian living which give priority to the values of unconditional love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, compassion and faith.

Within our religious education, we also help children to:

- reflect theologically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society;
- reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief;
- see how the truth of Christianity is relevant today;
- understand the challenge faced by Christians in today's pluralist and post-modern society;
- develop the skills to handle the Bible text;
- recognise that faith is based on commitment to a particular way of understanding God and the world;
- begin to develop their own commitments, beliefs and values;
- develop a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious;
- experience the breadth and variety of the Christian community;
- engage in thoughtful dialogue with other faiths and traditions;
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour;
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world;
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition.;

The Religious Education at Tarleton Holy Trinity equips our children to recognise the common search of all humanity and for ultimate truth and relationship with the divine. It is entirely appropriate and necessary in today's world, therefore, that respect for the great world faiths is fostered in RE within our school. This respect is based on an accurate and sympathetic understanding of the other faiths which is consistent with the school's loyalty to its Christian foundation.

Therefore, RE in our schools also helps pupils to:

- learn about other faiths, their beliefs, traditions and practices and from them through encounter and dialogue
- recognise and respect those of all faiths in their search for God
- recognise areas of common belief and practice between different faiths
- enrich and expand their understanding of truth while remaining faithful to their own tradition
- enrich their own faith through examples of holy living in other traditions
- recognise the common human quest for justice, peace and love and the common goal of the survival of life on this planet.

We also ensure:

- opportunities to explore the experience of the Church's year
- welcoming visitors from the local parish to share their experience of Christian belief and life
- liaison with the local parish to enable these visits and links to occur
- support for the pupils; confident use of religious language
- a well-used set of Bibles in language that can be understood by the learners and examples of Bibles and prayer books from a variety of contexts
- access to Christian artifacts that are used with care, respect and confidence
- a sacred space that can be used as a focus for prayer and silent reflection
- encouragement of mutual respect based on Christian values, where pupils and teachers are able to talk openly and freely about their own personal
- beliefs and practice without fear of ridicule
- pupils to make excellent and appropriate progress in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity
- pupils from Christian families to talk openly about their beliefs and values in lessons and to grow in their faith
- pupils from other faith backgrounds to understand and be encouraged in their faith
- pupils with no religious background to face the challenge of the Christian faith
- pupils of all backgrounds to have a safe place to explore the place of doubt and certainty in a maturing faith.

At Tarleton Holy Trinity, our Religious Education makes a significant contribution to the pupils' Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural development.

Spiritual development within RE in our school enriches and encourages the pupils' discovery of God the creator, of their 'inmost being' and of the wonder of the environment. Moral development is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, which offer pupils a secure foundation stone on which to make decisions and build their lives.

Social development enriches pupils' understanding of what it means to live in a Christian community where Jesus' command to love one another is put into practice. Cultural development provides opportunities to develop an understanding of Christianity as a worldwide, multi-cultural faith that has an impact on the lives of millions of people.

We are committed to all children accessing our Religious Education, ensuring that activities are well resourced and matched to children needs. We are inclusive of our SEND children and also recognise that access to deep Religious Educational experiences are not limited by educational challenges.

At Tarleton Holy Trinity, we have established a system for moderating children's RE activities and reflections against AT1 and AT2. These include an class RE scrapbook and pupils work.

At Tarleton Holy Trinity have a wide range of resources which support, develop and inspire the RE curriculum. These can be found within each classroom.

Parental Rights of Withdrawal from Religious Education

Parents may request the governing body to provide Religious Education for their children according to the Agreed Syllabus. This can only be requested when parents cannot, with reasonable convenience, arrange for their children to attend another school where Religious Education is provided according to the Agreed Syllabus. The governing body will make provision unless the circumstances make it unreasonable to do so.

Should the governing body be unable to make such arrangements for Religious Education to be delivered according to the Agreed Syllabus, the responsibility for doing so then falls on the Local Authority. The Local Authority may decide that such a request for separate Religious Education is unreasonable and the parental request then fails.

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.

If such a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher should explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Religious Education or Worship are objected to.

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Document reviews

We are aware of the need to review our school's documents regularly so that we can take account of:
new initiatives, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology etc.

This policy was written in September 2017

and will be reviewed in September 2020.

Signed by:

Member of staff responsible for this policy

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Governor responsible for this policy

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