

Bishop Pursglove CE Primary School

# RE Policy

Reviewed 2025

Think deeper, Love wider and Reach higher

✿ At our school, we Reach Higher, Think Deeper and Love Wider,  
nurturing an environment where every child is empowered to flourish.  
We lead with love, act with courage and help others. ✿

## **Statement of Intent:**

At Bishop Purglove's we want our children to be able to have informed conversations about religion and belief. It is important that our classrooms are safe places where everyone's contributions are valued and where children are taught to 'disagree agreeably' through Collective Worship and Relationship Education as well as RE.

We want to prepare and equip our children to flourish as citizens of local, national and global communities. We want children to have the skills to interpret layers of meaning and begin to reflect on what their own beliefs may be.

By teaching Religious Education, it is not our intention to convert children to the Christian, or an alternative faith, but rather to teach them the core values and beliefs of those who follow them in order to develop their understanding and empathy towards the world around them.

## **What we will teach our children:**

We follow both the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and the Understanding Christianity framework from the Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 6. Each half term, children will focus on a theme from these frameworks. This can be found in our long term plan .

We promote the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by learning about religion and from religion. This reflects the fact that religious traditions in the UK are, in the main, Christian, as well as seeking an understanding and appreciation of, as well as respect for, other cultures and beliefs.

In Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, children learn about Christianity and Islam. Children will learn about Christian beliefs surrounding God, Creation and important festivals. They will also have the opportunity to explore the beliefs of followers of the Islam faith.

In Key Stage 2, children learn about Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. These lessons will focus on the deeper meanings behind Creation, the Holy Trinity, how Christians follow the teachings of Jesus and festivals in the Christian calendar. Children will also explore the beliefs of both the Hindu and Islamic faith.

## **How we will teach our children:**

At Bishop Purglove's there is an expectation that Religious Education is taught each week for a minimum of 1 hour. Teachers will plan lesson content using the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity documents, ensuring that learning meets the needs and ability of their class. Lessons will be focused on learning about, and learning from religion.

Religious Education is a key component of school life at Bishop Purglove's. As a Church of England school, it is woven throughout our daily life. Children are given opportunities to explore and reflect critically upon beliefs and values in other areas of the curriculum, and through the delivery of daily Collective Worship.

By teaching RE, it is not our intention to convert children to the Christian, or an alternative faith, but rather to teach them the core values and beliefs of those who follow them in order to develop their own understanding and empathy towards the world around them.

The Education Act 1996 and the School Standards and Framework Act 1988 states that parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of Religious Education lessons and Collective Worship. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

## **Curriculum Impact – what our outcomes will be:**

The Principal aim of RE in Derbyshire schools is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own. (Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus, 2020).

Through the delivery of Religious Education, we hope to create a space where children gain a knowledge of faiths, Christianity in particular, but also Islam and Hinduism. We want to equip children with the skills to be able to interpret layers of meaning and to begin to reflect on what their own beliefs might be. Our curriculum explicitly teaches attitudes of tolerance and respect as well as the capacity to begin to articulate what is meant by truth and the impact of a particular belief both on the person of faith and the community around them. We hope through Religious Education, children will be prepared to flourish in both their local, and wider, communities.

## **How is our Church School distinct?**

Church of England schools welcome everyone – Christian families and families of all faiths and none. We strive to be inclusive while not compromising their foundations. In some areas communities around a school may predominantly comprise those of other faiths. Church schools recognise that the inclusive nature of their school should ensure the best education for all children. The Christian ethos should not be as 'add on', but instead enhance the teaching of the National Curriculum. Christian beliefs and values should underpin the daily life of Church Schools. Pupils should be given a sound basis for making life choices. Pupils should leave a Church School having been offered the opportunity to experience and understand Christian beliefs and the Christian narrative. The Christian distinctiveness of each individual school should be understood by all. The Christian character of a Church of England school should have a positive impact on the local community.