



Grindleton CE Primary School

Religious Education Policy

Our Christian Vision

As a unique village school, inspired by our Christian love, we strive to nurture our family to 'grow and shine in God's glory'. We will open our hearts to God's wonderful, diverse creation cherishing everyone as a child of God. Through Jesus' example, we will instil resilience and confidence for tomorrow.

'In the same way, let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven.' Matthew 5
v16

Mission Statement

We aspire to great things, achieve much, love, care for each other, and deliver a high quality education in an inclusive and distinctively Christian environment.

Motto

Grow and shine in God's glory

Values

Love Friendship Honesty Loyalty Forgiveness Respect

Mission Statement for RE

At Grindleton C of E School, the management of Religious Education is a distinctive role of the governors and head teacher. RE must be provided in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and in accordance with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England. The Governing Body as a whole is responsible for determining the nature of Religious Education

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provided in school ensuring that the teaching of RE contributes to the Christian ethos, school values and every aspect of school life.

Although Religious Education and Collective Worship naturally compliment and enrich one another, they should be managed separately.

"In Church of England schools the students and their families can expect a religious education curriculum that is rich and varied, enabling learners to acquire a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith. Church schools should provide a wide range of opportunities for learners to understand and to make links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of the range of faiths and world views studied. Church schools should use some form of enquiry approach that engages with, for example biblical text, and helps develop religious and theological literacy. Links with the Christian values of the school and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are intrinsic to the RE curriculum and should have a significant impact on learners." RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

"Christianity should be the majority study in RE in every school. In Church schools that should be clearly adhered to. At Grindleton School, at least 2/3rds of RE curriculum is to be Christianity. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, however organised, should be committed to the delivery of RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but must be no less than 5%."

RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

Rationale

At Grindleton C of E Primary School, religious education is taught in accordance with the revised Blackburn Syllabus of 2017, but also drawn from other materials: the Bradford and Ripon and Leeds, and Lancashire Syllabuses and the School's own material. It reflects the distinctive and inclusive ethos of our Anglican foundation.

The aims of Religious Education at **Grindleton Church of England Primary School** are:

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

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Appropriate to the age at the end of their education at **Grindleton Church of England Primary School** the expectation is that all pupils are religiously literate and, as a minimum, pupils are able to:

- Give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- Show an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning.
- Engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.
- Reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions.

This can be expressed in more detail and distinctively as:

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.

We learn from

- an empathetic response to the Christian faith and a critical engagement with it;
- responding personally to the stories and teachings of Jesus Christ;
- examples of Christian living which give priority to the values of unconditional love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, compassion and faith.

Religious Education at Grindleton Church of England Primary School should also help 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.
- understand how RE can contribute to the Christian values in school and British Values

Religious Education at Grindleton Church of England Primary School should help pupils 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;

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- 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.;

Religious Education at Grindleton Church of England Primary School should enable:

- pupils and teachers 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 be given an insight into what it means to be a person of faith;
- pupils of all backgrounds to have a safe place to explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society.

Planning and Assessment

The progression and development of ideas in the Blackburn Diocese Board of Education RE Syllabus 2017 within and across the Key Stages is facilitated at the medium term planning stage. This ensures that when similar aspects of Religious Education are being taught at the same time, those teaching Religious Education in each Key Stage can more easily ensure continuity.

Children's progress is most often measured by ongoing assessment, particularly during discussions which form the greater part of our work. Children are also encouraged to demonstrate their understanding through contribution to display both within the classroom and across school. Children's achievements are celebrated within the school community and often more broadly and reported on more formally in end of year reports to parents.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education

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The whole curriculum at Grindleton C E Aided Primary School provides opportunities to promote pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. Children and staff have explicit opportunities to explore these areas through our Religious Education teaching and in our framework for personal, social, health education and citizenship (PSHE). Collective Worship is also a clear vehicle for exploring themes and issues. A significant contribution is made through the School Ethos and effective relationships throughout the school.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies

- SEN
- Collective Worship
- Assessment
- Marking and feedback

Parental Rights of Withdrawal at Grindleton Church of England Primary School.

'The Worship and Religious Education provided by **Grindleton Church of England Primary School** is in accordance with the Church of England. 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 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.'

Head Teacher & RE Co-ordinator: P Holden

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