



# Callow End CE Primary School Curriculum

*Building a foundation for love and learning.*

## R.E. Curriculum Statement

### Intent

At Callow End CE Primary School, we aim to build a strong foundation for love and learning. This vision is key to our RE teaching, being rooted in Christian theology, which teaches us that God is love (John 3v16) and that solid foundations are crucial (Matthew 7v24-27). God teaches us how to live our lives, and at Callow End school we use the words and the example of Jesus to build a firm foundation for love and learning. Through the teaching of RE, we want to instill a strong foundation for **love** in the children, so that they can learn how to truly love others, respecting different beliefs and ways of living. We strive to celebrate differences both in our school community and around the world through our teaching, learning and shared life with our Church. Jesus said, 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12. As a foundation for **learning**, we promote excellence in RE, providing an inspirational curriculum which enables all pupils to aspire, achieve and flourish. We want our children to have positive emotional and mental health, and an understanding of their place in the wider world. 'I came that they may have life and live it to the full' John 10.10

As a Church of England School, the study of RE is an essential part of children's learning and it is treated as a core subject at Callow End in the way the curriculum is structured, organised and delivered. We want all children to be enthusiastic and confident learners of RE, gaining a breadth and depth of understanding about the different belief systems surrounding them. Our aim is for the children to explore what people believe, and what difference this makes to how they live. They can then acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, whilst also reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living. Our Christian values- drawn from the Bible- of respect, forgiveness, perseverance, courage, friendship and truthfulness, shine through in the RE curriculum and provide the children with good lessons for how to live well in a pluralistic, multicultural society. We provide all children, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, class, aptitude or disability, with a broad and balanced R.E. curriculum. We want children to become informed communicators about religion and belief systems, developing spiritually, morally, socially and culturally so they find purpose in their life.

### Implementation

Our R.E. syllabus is based around a key question approach, where the question opens up the content to be studied. These questions support teachers in delivering high quality R.E. that enables coherence and progression. Our curriculum is built on the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2020-2025. Additionally, we make use of the Understanding Christianity units to ground the children in a deep understanding of the big picture of the whole Bible. Pupils are taught in class groups, following a whole school two-year plan. Teachers will differentiate their approach and strategies to take account of pupils' individual ability. Work in R.E. is not just in written form and there is an emphasis on discussion, drama, dance, music and art.

All pupils will learn from Christianity in each Key Stage. Additionally, they will also learn from the principal religions represented in the U.K., and non-religious views, such as Humanism, will also be a focus for study. Each class undertake six RE units per year. In Reception this will cover Christianity and other faiths, as part of their study of their growing sense of self, their own community and their place within it. In Key Stage One they will look in depth at Christian and Muslim or Jewish people; and in Key Stage Two at Christian, Muslims, Hindus and Jewish people. Units of work 'spiral' through the Key Stages and offer repeated opportunities to



return to the same key concepts in more breadth and depth as children move through school. The curriculum gradually expands through the Key Stages to ensure children become fluent in their understanding of different faiths and beliefs.

The implementation of a spiral curriculum means that progression across the school is clear and challenge is evident. In Understanding Christianity key concepts are introduced, built upon and revisited throughout the years via the use of a picture frieze which is displayed around the school. Similarly, other faith units are introduced and then built on as the children progress through the school. A progression document details the expectations for each year group and how these build on the previous year group. Through the incremental structure of the planning, within and across year groups, learners are actively encouraged to grapple with key questions and continuously make connections. Vocabulary is key to learning in RE. Appropriate and progressive technical vocabulary is taught and revisited alongside these key concepts.

Open the Book and Ising Pop classroom worship also seek to actively support RE within school. Visits to St James are made regularly, alongside trips to other faith communities.

The teaching of RE is monitored by the subject leader through lesson observations, work scrutiny, staff feedback and pupil voice. The subject leader supports staff to ensure high quality first teaching of RE.

## Impact

Through the coherent, progressive and in-depth teaching of R.E. children will develop the ability to respond to Christianity, other world religions and belief systems. They will develop skills of enquiry and response through the use of religious vocabulary, questioning and empathy. Alongside this they will grow skills of reflection, expression, application, analysis and evaluation of beliefs, values and practices, and the communication of personal responses to these. They will have a respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own. By the end of Year 6 they will be able to give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith and have a clear understanding of key concepts within Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. All children will be equipped with the appropriate language and skills to grapple with complex questions and respond both academically and with their own reasoned opinions. As children leave the school, they are well-equipped to grapple with the Key Stage 3 RE curriculum and continue to grow and evaluate different belief systems, knowing how to be reflective in the process.

RE at Callow End is inclusive, open, broad and explores a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. It will benefit all pupils and encourage a deep respect for other people's views. Parents legally have a right to withdraw their children from RE lessons, and we encourage any parents with any concerns about the teaching of RE at Callow End to contact the Headteacher who will meet with them to discuss this further.