

Wilton and Barford CE VC Primary School

Religious Education Policy

School Mission Statement:

Wilton and Barford CE VC Primary School is a welcoming, inclusive community, where everyone is

Inspired to learn from each other and from the world we share,
Supported to work through life's challenges and to grow spiritually, and
Encouraged to achieve and celebrate the joys of success.

Guided by the Christian values of **care**, **respect** and **trust** we recognise and celebrate each other's unique gifts and strive to ensure that every member of our school reaches their full potential.

Inspired to Learn

Supported to Succeed

Encouraged to Excel

A. INTRODUCTION

'The Principal Aim of RE in Wiltshire is to engage pupils in enquiring into key questions arising from the study of religion and belief, so as to promote their personal and spiritual development'.

(Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2011 p.4)

B. RECENT LEGISLATION

RE and the National Curriculum

Religious education is a component of the basic curriculum, to be taught alongside the National Curriculum in all maintained schools.

The curriculum for every maintained school in England shall comprise a basic curriculum which includes:

- a) provision for religious education for all registered pupils at the school (in accordance with such of the provisions of Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (c. 31) as apply in relation to the school),
- b) a curriculum for all registered pupils at the school who have attained the age of three but are not over compulsory school age (known as "the National Curriculum for England").

Education Act 2002, s80

Wilton and Barford Primary School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School. The Governors in consultation with the Head teacher have adopted the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus in accordance with the statement:

Religious education must be taught in accordance with the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus in all:

- Community schools and
- Foundation and Voluntary controlled schools (SSFA 1998 paras 2(1) and 2(2) Schedule 19)

C. AIMS

In Religious Education at Wilton and Barford CE VC Primary School, our aim is that pupils might:-

- Develop a knowledge and understanding of Christianity and its impact on our local community, and on our society today
- Develop a knowledge and understanding of some of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain today
- Develop a sense of respect for religious traditions, beliefs and practices.
- Develop a sense of awe and wonder, mystery and joy
- Develop skills and attitudes which will support their personal, moral, social and cultural development
- Explore some questions of meaning, purpose and truth and consider how the world's religions have responded to them.
- Develop ways of expressing meaning
- Explore questions of identity, diversity and belonging
- Think about their own beliefs, values and commitments in the light of the beliefs of others, both religious and non-religious, and the values of the school community.

D. CONTENT

The recommended time allocation for R.E. is :

Foundation Stage	36 hours per year, both teacher-led activities and child-initiated activities
Key Stage One	36 hours per year
Key Stage Two	45 hours per year

This is in addition to the daily act of worship.

We use the 'Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus for RE' as a basis for our planning in FS2, KS1 & KS2. As a source of ideas and teaching strategies we also make use of QCA units as well as other material recommended by the diocese including

material from the 'Solihull Handbook for Religious Education in the Foundation Stage'.

In accordance with the structure of the locally agreed syllabus, we have agreed that at FS2, pupils will study Christianity plus aspects of other religions as appropriate. In KS1 pupils will study Christianity as the principal focus, along with aspects of at least one other principal religion, selecting from Judaism or Islam. In KS2 pupils will study Christianity as the principal focus, along with aspects of at least two other principal religions, selecting from Judaism or Islam (whichever has not been selected in KS1) and at least one from Hinduism and Sikhism.

The Agreed Syllabus has 2 attainment targets with the following connected Fields of Enquiry:

AT1: Learning about Religion and Belief

- a) beliefs, teachings and sources
- b) practices and ways of life
- c) expressing meaning

AT2 Learning from Religion and Belief

- d) questions of identity, diversity and belonging
- e) questions of meaning, purpose and truth
- f) questions of values and commitments

Themes looked at can largely be summed up as 'Special people', 'Special places', 'Special times' and 'Being special' with FS 'discovering', KS1 'exploring' and KS2 'connecting' ideas.

E. SKILLS and ATTITUDES

The scheme of work aims to develop a range of skills and attitudes. Each unit of work will focus on particular skills and attitudes, stimulating curiosity and developing a sense of exploration and discovery. The children will be encouraged to investigate, interpret, evaluate and communicate their ideas. This will develop their ability to think, interpret and reflect; skills applicable to the whole curriculum.

F. METHODS OF TEACHING

In order to make religious education a lively, active subject we employ a variety of teaching methods including art, music, discussion, the development of thinking skills, drama, the use of artefacts, pictures, stories, and the use of periods of stillness and reflection.

Where possible we want our pupils to have opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of local faith communities.

G. ASSESSMENT

In the Foundation Stage, children's attainment in religious education will be assessed in relation to the early learning goals. In KS1&2 level descriptors listed in the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus will provide the basis to make judgements about pupils' performances at the end of the key stages. P-levels can be used for pupils achieving below level 1 in RE.

It is expected that each teacher will be responsible for the regular assessment of his or her pupils through marking work set, listening to pupils as they describe their work or reason with others, questioning, setting tasks that require the planned use of specific skills, ensuring the coverage of both attainment targets. The class teacher will record the level achieved by each pupil.

H. THE RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM R.E.

At Wilton and Barford CE VC Primary School we wish to be an inclusive community, but recognise that parents, of course, have the legal right to withdraw their children from religious education on the grounds of conscience. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the Head teacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision and practice of religious education at Wilton and Barford CE VC Primary School.