



# TYNSEL PARKES C.E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

## R.E. POLICY

Our School Vision:

Tynsel Parkes CE Primary Academy is a welcoming community, providing a nurturing environment where everyone is valued and loved. We strive to be a community where everyone works for the good of everyone else. "Dear friends, let us love one another, all love comes from God." – 1 John 4:7. Encouraging all to be compassionate, confident, and responsible individuals who positively contribute to the world we live in. We strive for excellence in all we do, by working our hardest and always seeking to improve, we grow and learn with happiness, treating one another with kindness and respect. This is reflected through our living motto practised throughout the Academy, 'Loving & Learning Together'.

RE – Intent:

We believe that it is important for all our children to learn from and about religion so that they can understand the world around them. The aim of Religious Education in our school is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain; to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in such a way as to reflect the overall aims, Christian values, and philosophy of the school. It plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas, in promoting social awareness and understanding in our children. We encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. We include and promote British values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens.

Our curriculum is designed to encourage creativity, imagination, enquiry, discussion and reflection.

### 1. **Legal Requirement**

The Education Reform Act [1988] places RE as part of the basic curriculum; a statutory subject which is an entitlement of all pupils. In 1998 RE was given equivalent status to the core subjects. The school bases its RE provision on Understanding Christianity, whilst following the Staffordshire Agreed RE Syllabus. In addition, as a Church controlled school, Tynsel Parkes Academy uses the LDBE RE Guidance to offer the extra dimension of its Church foundation. The school recognises the right of withdrawal of teachers, and of pupils at the request of their parents. This is stated in the school brochure.

### 2. **Rationale**

RE is an important area in its own right. It contributes to other areas of education and human experience [Aesthetic, environments, ethical, political, social and spiritual]. It is an important part of the wider programme of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;

**Spiritual** - Widening pupils vision and understanding of themselves and their own experience, within the context of a growing awareness and understanding of God.

**Moral** - Helping each pupil develop his or her own informed values.

- Social** - Helping pupils understand some major shaping the values in our society.
- Cultural** - Aiding pupils in exploring aspects of their own cultural heritage, and in developing positive attitudes towards diversity.

### 3. The Nature of RE

The essential elements of RE are embodied in the Understanding Christianity themes for the different year groups and in the LDBE RE Guidance. These can be summarised into two aspects: learning ABOUT faith (the knowledge) and learning FROM faith (the impact of faith and faith decisions).

### 4. Aims of Religious Education

- (i) Children will explore learning through Understanding Christianity via the following:
- Making Sense of the Text (Theology)
  - Understanding the Impact (Human and Social Science)
  - Making Connections (Philosophy)
- (ii) As a Church School we aim to offer:
- a full and positive presentation of living Christianity in an opportunity for encountering the Christian life in Anglican traditions and other contexts
  - to promote understanding and respect for other faiths
- (iii) To support the School's Christian Values through bible stories.

### 5. Management

The RE Co-ordinator is responsible for: -

- Overseeing that learning across the school is planned effectively and provides opportunities for progression
- Supporting colleagues in the detailed planning and delivery of their RE provision
- Ensuring RE has status within the school
- Keeping in touch with developments in RE and disseminating this information as appropriate
- Auditing and recording current resources, supplementing resource provision when money is available and disseminating this information to staff
- Undertaking personal development in this area and ensuring there is a provision for staff professional development
- Monitoring provision, which will take the form of planning scrutiny and pupil's work, discussion with staff and pupils and observations of lessons
- Developing assessment strategies in order to identify standards pupils are working at and ways forward
- Meeting with the RE link LAC member to support and challenge the school to move forward with our RE teaching and learning.
- Meeting with the LDBE RE advisor.

### 6. Current Practice/Principles

Tynsel Parkes C.E. Primary Academy and its RE teaching will reflect its overall Christian ethos in the following ways:

- RE is delivered by all teachers to all children
- A whole school plan/long term overview is in place and reviewed regularly for effectiveness and forms the basis for the medium term plans. These plans are based upon Understanding Christianity and LDBE RE Guidance and are divided into half termly units.
- Teaching styles and delivery vary, and may include whole class teaching, working individually and group work. In addition, outside visitors and local churches are used to

broaden our pupils' experiences. We recognise the value of drama, music and art in the teaching of R.E. Lessons will provide opportunities for reflection and circle time is used to develop social and moral issues.

- Differentiation is accounted for by appropriate work sheets and activities
- Annual school reports reflect children's achievement and progress across the curriculum. Success is celebrated with certificates and awards. Medium term plans contain space for evaluation of the teaching sequence and learning taken place.
- Spirituality is addressed through Collective Worship, reflection opportunities and through issues raised during lessons and elsewhere, see Spirituality Policy.

## **7. Development Plan for RE**

The RE subject leader has an action plan to develop and enhance RE teaching and learning. Consultation is to take place between staff, the LAC and advisor from the Diocese. Training and updating staff is ongoing.

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