



**COWLEY
ST LAURENCE**
CE Primary School

Policy for Religious Education (RE)

Introduction

At Cowley St Laurence CE Primary School, our RE policy reflects our commitment to nurturing the spiritual and moral development of every child. Rooted in our Christian foundation, we aim to inspire pupils to live by our new motto:

“Rooted in Faith – Learning with Love – Creating a Bright Future.”

Our approach to RE is guided by the school’s vision, drawn from Jeremiah 29:11:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

We are committed to providing an inclusive and inspiring RE curriculum that equips children with a strong foundation of faith, respect for diversity, and hope for their futures.

Aims of Religious Education

In line with our Christian ethos and values, the aims of RE at Cowley St Laurence are to:

- **Encourage spiritual growth and reflection** by helping children develop their own beliefs, values, and responses to fundamental life questions, in the context of Christian teachings.
- **Foster love and respect for diversity**, enabling children to understand and appreciate other religions, cultures, and traditions present in our local and global community.
- **Instill hope and resilience**, inspired by God’s plans for each child, helping them understand their worth and purpose in creating a bright future.
- **Nurture awe, wonder, and curiosity** about the world and its deeper meanings through exploration of religious stories, symbols, and practices.
- **Provide a strong biblical foundation** by introducing children to the historical, theological, and moral teachings that underpin the Christian faith.

Teaching and Learning

Religious Education at Cowley St Laurence involves learning *about* religion and learning *from* religion. Guided by the **LDBS syllabus**, the curriculum integrates Christianity as the principal focus while introducing children to other world faiths such as Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism, and Buddhism.

Our teaching reflects the values of our motto and vision by:

- **Rooting lessons in faith**, helping children see how belief and worship shape individuals and communities.

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- **Promoting learning with love**, creating a respectful and inclusive environment where all voices are valued.
- **Encouraging creativity**, using stories, art, drama, and reflective discussions to explore beliefs and values.

Every classroom features a Prayer and Reflection corner, serving as a constant reminder of the importance of RE in our daily lives.

Resources and Experiences

We provide a rich variety of resources and experiences to deepen pupils' understanding of religious faith and practice, including:

- Biblical stories and theological discussions rooted in Jeremiah 29:11, helping children connect faith to hope for the future.
- Visits to places of worship and interactions with faith leaders, fostering respect and interfaith understanding.
- Artefacts, music, drama, and poetry that bring religion to life.

The close relationship with supportive clergy and our church enhances children's spiritual development and connection to their Christian heritage.

Inclusion and Special Educational Needs

We believe every child deserves equal access to RE. Lessons are adapted to support children with additional needs, ensuring they can participate meaningfully. Differentiated materials and vocabulary support are provided to challenge and inspire every learner.

Assessment

Progress in RE is monitored using the **LDBS progressive attainment scale**, which tracks development from simple recall and retelling in Key Stage 1 to thoughtful comparison, analysis, and personal reflection by the end of Key Stage 2. Teachers complete assessments termly to ensure children are growing in faith, knowledge, and understanding.

Withdrawal Policy

RE and collective worship are integral to life at Cowley St Laurence. Parents may request withdrawal of their child on religious grounds, in writing to the Head of School, who will meet with them to discuss alternative arrangements.

Conclusion

Religious Education at Cowley St Laurence is more than a subject; it is a cornerstone of our mission to prepare children for life as compassionate, thoughtful, and hopeful individuals. Through being *Rooted in Faith, Learning with Love, and Creating a Bright Future*, we aim to help every child flourish in line with God's plans for them.

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