



Walsh C of E Infant and Junior Schools

Religious Education Policy

Agreed	Summer 2025
Review	Summer 2026
Statutory	
Annual	

Walsh C of E Infant and Junior School Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a peaceful, nurturing Christian school community in which everyone knows they belong. Our inclusive approach ensures that everyone is valued, has high aspirations and given opportunities to flourish in every area of life.

Our motto is '**Flourishing together, with God as our firm foundation**'.

'Jesus said: you are Peter and on this rock I will build my church' (Matthew 16 v 18)

Values

We live out our vision through our values of **Community, Peace, Love and Resilience**.

Peter showed an understanding about the nature of and **peace** of God, the **love** for others and a **resilience** through trials. Peter helped build the early Christian **community**.

Entitlement and Teaching

Both schools have adopted The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools 2023-2028.

The time allocated to ensure the statutory content has appropriate coverage is as follows:

Early Years

There is no time allocation for EYFS but practitioners will ensure that statutory content is given appropriate coverage through the Early Years provision.

Key Stage 1

Year 1 – 36 hours per Year

Year 2 – 36 hours per Year

Key Stage 2

Year 3 - 45 hours per year

Year 4 - 45 hours per year

Year 5 - 45 hours per year

Year 6 - 45 hours per year

A minimum of 50% will be the teaching of Christianity.

Curriculum Aim and Overview

We work to the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE in Surrey Schools 2023-28, which has been developed by the Guildford Diocesan Board of Education and SACRE.

The Syllabus is designed to enable pupils to:

- demonstrate an appreciation of the nature of worldviews and the important contribution of religion and belief, spiritual insights and values to the individual's search for meaning in life;
- recognise that someone's worldview, including their own, can be influenced by many factors and is an intrinsic part of how they view the world;
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and of the other principal religions and beliefs represented in Great Britain, through their history, contemporary diverse expressions and encountering peoples' lived experiences;
- develop interest in and enthusiasm for the study of worldviews and enhance their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- develop the ability to make reasoned, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues;
- recognise the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on the individual, on culture and on communities throughout the world.

Curriculum Content and approach

The curriculum overview for Early Years, Key stage 1 and 2 is planned out by the RE Lead following guidance from the syllabus. Support materials for each unit will be used, and adapted if necessary, to meet the needs of each class. Teachers will ensure the time allocation for each unit of work is accurate, ensuring proper coverage of each topic.

Knowledge Organisers

Where books move from one year group to the next, a cover sheet will be added to the RE book to mark the beginning of the new year group or phase (LK2/UK2).

Knowledge Organisers are to be used (at Walsh Infants) at the beginning of each new topic and placed in books as a title page, these will display the new vocabulary and definition.

Progress and Monitoring

The RE lead will monitor the teaching and learning of RE termly. Observations will highlight strengths and identify areas for further support in teaching and learning delivery. Book looks ensure that all children are able to access the learning through the scaffolding of tasks and additional support, and that marking is consistent with school policy.

Special Education Needs provision

Teachers will plan activities according to the needs and abilities of the class, ensuring that differentiated tasks for both the more and less able pupils is appropriate. The needs of children on the SEND register will be accounted for and in line with their SEND plan.

Assessment

End of unit assessment is carried out each half term and pupils are given a working level, which is recorded on Insight / Arbor (at the Infant school). The RE Subject leader will analyse assessment termly to monitor the effectiveness of teaching towards the end of phase outcomes. Parents will be informed of their child's progress at regular parents' evenings and a comment written report given in the child's end of the year report.

Resources

Resources will be ordered and collated by the RE lead and are housed in faith specific labelled cupboards/boxes. Resources can also be borrowed from the Cathedral and Church House.

Peaceful Places

Both schools have a communal prayer and reflection area where children are encouraged to take time to think, reflect or to pray if they wish. The theme for reflection and prayer will change up to 3 times each half term. Classrooms also have a small dedicated area named the 'Peaceful Place' to allow children to pray and/or reflect, with opportunity to reflect or write prayers to say thank you, to say sorry or to ask for help.

Communal Prayer areas could have:

- a prayer table and cloth
- school prayer
- cross and small holding crosses
- Bibles and prayer books
- A prayer box / tree or other suitable receptacle, for children to put their prayers and other contributions.
- Questions displayed to promote reflection time and ideas for prayer writing
- Resources for prayers linking to our values and Zones of Regulation.

Class reflection and prayer areas will incorporate the above as space allows.

RE learning / display board

Each class will have a dedicated RE learning wall to display the current unit 'Big Question', the Golden thread questions for God, community and identity' along with the vocabulary to be developed within the unit of work. The addition of examples of work from each lesson work will show a visual progression of learning.

Faith Team

Both schools have established a Faith Team who will meet regularly to discuss and review aspects of the schools' Christian distinctiveness, Collective Worship and teaching of RE. They will be involved in the planning of some Collective Worship, contributing ideas towards Diocese projects, giving pupil voice to RE learning and contributing ideas to enable us to be the best church schools that we can.