

# RE

At Holy Cross Church of England Primary School, we provide learners a broad and balanced curriculum in Religious Education. As a Church of England school we provide an increased Christianity element to our RE teaching, however we aim to equip our pupils with an understanding of the diverse worldviews of our Global neighbours.

As a Church school it is important that the children in EYFS feel a part of the Christian ethos and community that we are so proud of. Children in the EYFS are involved in hearing key stories from the Bible and are able to talk about their meaning and how that fits into our whole school ethos. It serves as a great moral foundation and supports children in understanding about thankfulness, friendships and forgiveness. This is also reinforced during Collective Worship which EYFS children are an active part of from the first days in school.

The aims of religious education are to enable pupils to:

- Know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British Culture and heritage.
- Give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- Know about and understand other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- Show a well-informed, balanced and respectful attitude to religions and world views.
- Engage in meaningful and well-informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.
- Reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

The schools use the DEMAT LTP (2024) as a basis for the teaching of RE. This is based on the development of three types of knowledge:

- Substantive: the content we want children to know and remember

- Disciplinary: how we introduce our pupils to the ways in which we engage with that content
- Personal: How we help children use their learning to critically analyse their own world views. This goes beyond a child saying what they believe and what they value. It supports them to articulate the 'why' that sits behind their views.

These three areas of knowledge are in appropriate balance.

RE has lots of different disciplinary lenses. We need to teach children how to think like a theologian, philosopher, and human/social scientist. Alongside being introduced to these lenses, children will be introduced to the tools or skills these people use to help them answer these questions. For example, when theologians ask questions about believing, they very often interpret people's special stories. Here, the key skill is textual interpretations of special texts (e.g. the bible).