



RE POLICY

June 2026

Approved by: Headteacher / Governing Body **Date:** 17th June 2026

Reviewed & Updated: SRING 2026

Next review due: Summer 2028

EQUALITY STATEMENT

This document was formulated to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

The Governing Body recognises its legal responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010. This policy will ensure equality and fairness regardless of race, sex (gender), sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, disability or age.

GDPR DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

Data will be processed in line with the requirements and protections set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation.

North Wheatley C of E Primary School



Policy

BELIEVE * ACHIEVE * THRIVE

Our Vision and Values

At North Wheatley C of E Primary our vision and values are:

The journey through North Wheatley C of E Primary will give every member of the school community the courage and faith to: **'BELIEVE, ACHIEVE & THRIVE'** to encourage them to **'be the best me that they can be'** so that they **'Shine as lights in the World'** - Philippians 2:15.

Christian Values are the heartbeat of our school.

Believe: Believe in yourself, your faith and others

Achieve: Achieve your goals, your dreams and your future

Thrive: Thrive through a love of yourself, your faith, your values, your love of learning

Aims of Religious Education

At North Wheatley, Religious Education is at the heart of our vision as a Church of England school. Rooted in our Christian foundation and guided by our school vision and values, RE enables pupils to develop religious literacy, explore questions of meaning and purpose, and understand the beliefs, practices and ways of life of people of faith and non-faith worldviews. Through high-quality RE, we seek to nurture wisdom, dignity, respect, hope and community, enabling every child to flourish.

This policy reflects the school's commitment to providing an inclusive, academically rigorous and engaging Religious Education curriculum that supports pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepares them for life in a diverse and changing world.

Religious Education at North Wheatley aims to:

- Enable pupils to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and a range of other religions and worldviews.
- Develop pupils' religious literacy, enabling them to engage thoughtfully with theological, philosophical and human questions.
- Encourage pupils to reflect upon their own beliefs, values and experiences while respecting those of others.
- Foster curiosity, critical thinking, empathy and respectful dialogue.
- Support pupils in understanding the role of religion and belief in local, national and global communities.
- Contribute to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Promote understanding, respect and appreciation of diversity.
- Enable pupils to make informed and reasoned judgements about religion, belief and ethical issues.

Legal Requirements

Religious Education is unique in the curriculum as it is neither a core or foundation subject. In the 1988 Education Act it states, 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all pupils'.

North Wheatley is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School and therefore follows the Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2021 – 2026. Our RE curriculum incorporates Understanding Christianity, ensuring a coherent approach to teaching Christianity alongside other world religions. The RE curriculum reflects the teachings of the Church of England whilst providing opportunities to learn about other faiths and worldviews.

The Church of England's Statement of Entitlement

The Church of England's Statement of Entitlement outlines the aims and expectations for Religious Education in Church of England Schools and guides this school's approach to RE. It begins by stating:

Religious Education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10) It will help to educate for dignity and respect, encouraging all to live well together.

Quoting from the Church of England's Vision for Education: Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good, it continues, *Such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person.*

The Right of Withdrawal

Parents and carers have the legal right to withdraw their child, either wholly or partially, from Religious Education. The school will proactively share information about the Religious Education curriculum and how it is taught. Parents or carers who wish to exercise their right of withdrawal are asked to inform the headteacher.

Please see the Diocesan guidance document for further information on withdrawal from RE.

School approach to Religious Education

In line with all church schools, this school has a duty to provide accurate knowledge and understanding of religions and world views. A wide range of imaginative teaching methods and pupil groupings ensure effective RE sessions. We appreciate the positive impact that local faith communities can have on pupils' experience in RE. Therefore, this school encourages visits to places of worship and welcomes visitors from different faith communities. We recognise it is vitally important that teachers demonstrate respectful attitudes towards all faiths, modelling the attitudes and responses we would expect from our pupils.

As identified in the Statement of Entitlement, teaching and learning in RE in this school will provide:

- A challenging and robust curriculum based on an accurate theological framework.
- An assessment process which has rigour and demonstrates progression based on knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts.
- A curriculum that draws on the richness and diversity of religious experience worldwide.
- A pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations; and, in which real dialogue and theological enquiry takes place.
- The opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religion and world views as lived by believers.
- RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development

Curriculum Intent

Religious Education is a core academic subject and forms an essential part of the school's curriculum.

Our approach is 'Balanced RE'.

Through RE, pupils engage with:

Theology

- Understanding beliefs about God, creation, humanity, salvation and the Church.
- Exploring sacred texts and religious teachings.
- Investigating how beliefs influence the lives of believers.

Philosophy

- Considering questions about meaning, purpose, truth and existence.
- Developing skills of reasoning, questioning and critical thinking.
- Exploring different responses to life's big questions.

Human and Social Sciences

- Understanding how religion and belief are expressed through worship, traditions, communities and daily life.
- Exploring the diversity that exists within and between religious traditions.
- Examining the impact of religion and belief on individuals and society.

Christianity is studied in every year group and remains the majority focus of the curriculum, reflecting the school's Christian foundation. Pupils also learn about a range of other faiths and worldviews including Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Humanism, as appropriate to the curriculum.

Curriculum Implementation

Religious Education is taught through a planned and progressive curriculum that ensures continuity and progression across all key stages.

Teaching will:

- Be enquiry-based and knowledge-rich.
- Encourage discussion, questioning and reflection.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to engage with authentic religious voices and experiences.
- Include encounters with people of faith and belief communities.
- Make effective use of visits, visitors, artefacts, sacred texts, digital resources and religious art.
- Enable pupils to develop disciplinary knowledge and understanding through theological, philosophical and sociological lenses.

Inclusion

Religious Education is for all pupils.

Teachers will ensure that:

- Learning is appropriately adapted to meet individual needs.
- Pupils with SEND can access and participate fully in RE.
- Resources reflect diverse communities and experiences.
- All pupils feel valued regardless of their religion, belief, culture, background or family circumstances.
- Sensitive issues are approached thoughtfully and age-appropriately.

Assessment

Assessment in RE is ongoing and informs future teaching.

Teachers assess pupils' progress through:

- Discussion and dialogue
- Written work
- Creative responses
- Presentations and debates
- Reflection activities

Assessment focuses on pupils' ability to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding.
- Apply religious and theological concepts.
- Analyse and evaluate different viewpoints.
- Use appropriate religious vocabulary.
- Express informed and reasoned responses.

Progress is monitored by class teachers and the RE Subject Leader.

Collective Worship and RE

Religious Education and Collective Worship are distinct but complementary aspects of the school's Christian character.

Religious Education:

- Is an academic curriculum subject.
- Explores beliefs, practices and worldviews.
- Encourages critical enquiry and discussion.

Collective Worship:

- Is a daily opportunity for the school community to gather for reflection, prayer and worship.
- Supports spiritual development and the school's Christian vision.

- Provides opportunities for participation but does not form part of RE curriculum time.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of Religious Education is monitored through:

- Lesson observations
- Learning walks
- Work scrutiny
- Pupil voice
- Planning reviews
- Assessment analysis

The RE Subject Leader reports regularly to the Headteacher, governors and relevant diocesan bodies regarding standards and developments in RE.

Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure statutory requirements for RE are met.
- Support and monitor the provision of RE.
- Uphold the Christian foundation of the school.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure effective implementation of this policy.
- Support staff in delivering high-quality RE.
- Monitor standards and provision.

RE Subject Leader

The RE Leader will:

- Lead curriculum development.
- Monitor teaching and learning.
- Provide professional development and support.
- Ensure resources are appropriate and up to date.
- Promote excellence in RE across the school.

Teachers

Teachers will:

- Deliver high-quality RE in line with school and diocesan expectations.
- Assess pupil progress effectively.
- Create an inclusive and respectful learning environment.

Equal Opportunities

Religious Education promotes equality, diversity and inclusion. The school actively challenges discrimination, prejudice and stereotyping and encourages pupils to develop understanding and respect for people of all faiths, beliefs and backgrounds.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by changes to legislation, diocesan guidance or school practice.

Policy Reviewed: __17th June 2026_____

Next Review Date: __Summer 2028_____

Headteacher: __Holly Ruddlesdin_____

Chair of Governors: __Sharon Balmer____