

Hall Orchard Barrow C. of E. Primary School (Academy)

Religious Education and Worldviews Policy

'Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.'

Hebrews 10:24

Hall Orchard CE Primary School is a proud Church of England Academy with a clear vision, rooted in Christian values. Our whole school ethos *'Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.'* from Hebrews 10:24 is illustrated through the parable of the Good Samaritan and is referenced in our acts of Collective Worship.

At Hall Orchard CE Primary School, we believe in *'Living our Values'*. Our 5 core values incorporate the 15 Christian Values and are taught, promoted and celebrated throughout every aspect of the school's provision.



The foundations of our Mission

Educating for Community: Creation, Koinonia, Peace and Service – *a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.*

Educating for Respect: Humility, Justice and Reverence – *the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.*

Education for Friendship: Compassion, Forgiveness and Thankfulness – *a core focus on relationships, grounded on positive interactions; a confidence to resolve conflicts and a developing sense of empathy and belonging.*

Education for Aspiration: Hope – *enabling healing, repair and renewal, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.*

Education for Resilience: Endurance and Wisdom – *coping resiliently when things go wrong, enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.*

At Hall Orchard, 'Religious Education and Worldviews' is an important part of the curriculum. As a Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) School, we feel it appropriate to emphasise Christianity as the basis for Religious Education and Worldviews, but recognise the need for children to understand and respect other faiths and lifestyles, and to develop their own values and beliefs.

As a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School, our RAW curriculum follows the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education written by the Leicestershire SACRE and supported by the Diocese of Leicester. We believe it makes a vital contribution to our school's Christian character, enabling all to flourish in line with our school's vision; and supporting them to develop positive attitudes of respect to people from all religions and worldviews.

The Church of England Education 'Statement of Entitlement' has set down the following aims for RE in a Church of England School:

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.

To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.

To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Our whole school vision states:

- For our children to be confident, ambitious learners who demonstrate the personal values and skills necessary to make a positive contribution to the global community.
- To be an excellent school where all children achieve their best.

At Hall Orchard Church of England Primary School, we hope that through the provision of effective learning opportunities our children will:

- Develop a knowledge and understanding of Christianity and its impact on our local community, and on our society today.
- Develop a knowledge and understanding of some of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain today.
- Develop a sense of respect for religious traditions, beliefs, and practices in a world which is plural and diverse.
- Grow in their spiritual development.

- Develop a sense of awe and wonder and mystery.
- Develop skills and attitudes which will support their personal, moral, social and cultural development
- Explore some questions of meaning and consider how the world's religions have responded to them.
- Think about their own spirituality in the light of the beliefs of others, both religious and non-religious, and the values of the school community.

Knowledge in Religious Education and Worldviews

Substantive knowledge: this includes knowledge about religious and non-religious traditions, e.g. core concepts, truth claims, teachings and practices, behaviour and responses of believers, wider concepts such as spirituality and secularity, and how worldviews work in human life.

Disciplinary knowledge/ways of knowing: this is where pupils learn 'how to know' about religion and non-religion, incorporating methods from academic disciplines.

Personal knowledge: pupils build an awareness of their own presuppositions and values about the religious and non-religious traditions they study, and of the lived experience of believers.

Approaches to Teaching Religious Education and Worldviews

Within RAW lessons there will be a balance between whole-class work, guided group work and independent work.

Opportunities to discuss and explore their own thoughts and beliefs will be given priority, as well as time to ask questions and reflect. Stories, artefacts and pictures will enhance the learning experience. Where possible, we want our children to have opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of local faith communities.

Religious Education and Worldviews at Hall Orchard C of E Primary School is delivered in the following way:

Our RAW curriculum has been written from the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus (2021 – 2026) and has been created as a spiral curriculum, revisiting principal religions and non-religions throughout a child's journey through school from EYFS to Year 6.

EYFS pupils will study Christianity as the main religion, whilst touching on other community faiths through their studies about belonging and special places.

KSI pupils will study Christianity as the main religion, and develop their understanding of the Hindu Dharma and Islam and be introduced to Judaism.

KS2 pupils will build on their previous knowledge from their respective year groups and encounter a breadth and depth to each of the key religions.

Throughout the school, the children will be introduced to the Humanists' ideology as well as other non-religious philosophies.

Potential Visits:

EYFS Local Christian buildings

KSI Local Christian buildings and one other place of worship

KS2 Year 4+ Mandir

Year 5 Mosque

Year 6 Synagogue

Religious Education and Worldviews and Early Years Foundation Stage

Whilst the statutory requirement for Religious Education does not extend to children under compulsory school age, it can form a valuable part of the educational experience of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

It can contribute particularly to:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication, language and literacy
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Creative development

In our school, the Early Years Foundation Stage teachers, teach the Religious Education Scheme, linking it to areas of their curriculum.

Teaching Religious Education and Worldviews to Children with Special Educational Needs

Hall Orchard is an inclusive school and all children are involved in the Religious Education and World Views curriculum.

Teaching styles and planning will provide suitable learning challenges for all, a response to diverse needs, a range of different activities and an attempt to overcome potential barriers to learning.

Monitoring of Religious Education and Worldviews

The Religious Education coordinator will monitor Religious Education and Worldviews within the school through learning walks, book looks and pupil voice.

The Religious Education coordinator is also responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of Religious Education and Worldviews, attending courses to keep up to date with current developments and to provide a direction for the subject in the school.

Religious Education and Worldviews contributes to the School Evaluation with the Personal Development Lead working alongside the Headteacher

Reporting to Parents

On an annual basis, the school sends a Report to parents, showing attainment and progress in Religious Education and Worldviews, based on the teacher's judgement.

The right of Withdrawal from RAW

The ERA stipulates that Religious Education is compulsory for all children. The ERA allows parents to withdraw their child from RE classes if they so wish, although this should only be done once the parents have given written notice to the school governors. We would however hope that any parent considering this to contact the head teacher to discuss their concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision and practice of Religious Education first.

The ERA also allows teachers to refuse to teach RAW, but only after they have given due notice of their intention to the school governors.

Review Date: Summer 2026