

Religion at St Joseph's

Curriculum Intent, Implement, Impact

St Joseph's Primary School - Mission statement

St Joseph's is proud to be a Catholic School. Everything we aim to achieve will be based on the teaching and practice of the Catholic Church. Through this Catholic ethos we strive to develop in the school community respect and care for everyone.

In partnership between staff, children, parents, parish and the wider community we want to give every child the opportunity to fulfil their potential by developing their own gifts and talents. We aim to create a successful learning environment where all feel welcome, safe and part of the community. We wish through the whole life of our school for every child to realise their own worth and value.

Intent

At St Joseph's we will:-

We are a proud Catholic school, committed to teach and practice everything based on the teaching of the Catholic faith. We value each person as an individual, in the image and likeness of God. We are loved by Him, therefore special and unique in His eyes. At St Joseph's, each person is respected, and we promote each child's capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and spirituality.

Our Religious Education curriculum is based on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the *Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools*, which leads children to grow and learn in their faith, to respond to its invitation with growing faith and generosity. Children are provided with a wide range of experiences for Prayer and Worship in church, their classrooms and the school chapel. They also experience Catholic traditions and celebrations in school. Children learn to be respectful and understanding of people from other faiths and traditions. Through Religious Education, our children learn about their unique place and responsibility within their home, school and community.

- Our principal aim is that children leave St Joseph's School with a wide range of happy and rich memories in RE formed through interesting and exciting experiences driven through an engaging and comprehensive curriculum which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, enabling them to develop a living and personal faith in Jesus Christ, to know and love God.
- RE is the foundation of the entire education process and permeates all areas of the curriculum and school life.
- Children will meet the Diocesan Standards for Primary Religious Education, which will be taught by highly qualified staff who will engage children's intellect, heart and imagination, inspiring enthusiasm and interest in RE.
- Children will develop an awareness of God's presence in their lives and the lives of others, developing the spiritual life of each child through prayer and reflection.
- Children will develop a well-formed conscience allowing them to make sound moral judgements in the light of personal commitment to God.

- Parents, family members, friends of any faith and parishioners will be invited to attend Masses, Exposition Days and religious celebrations within the school and pupils will participate in parish activities outside of school time, promoting good links with St. Joseph's church.
- Children, and their parents, will develop the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Sacraments, preparing them with the parish and school.
- RE will play a central role in the school's work on spiritual, moral, vocational, social and cultural education.
- Children will be prepared for life in a multi faith society by fostering respect for and understanding of rich cultural diversity.
- RE is a core subject of the curriculum and all children will study RE for 2hrs 30 mins per week, including Prayer and Worship time, in class and in the school chapel.
- Children will attend Mass in St. Joseph's church on main feast days of the Church and with their class.
- Key stage 2 children will take part in Lent and Advent retreats, with the opportunity to go to confession.
- year 6 children will actively take part as Mini-Vinnies, in the school and local community, including inviting elderly people at Christmas and interacting with them.
- Children will know the social doctrine of the Catholic Church through actively participating in school CARITAS days, twice a term.
- Each class will take part and present assemblies to the school as they learn about Jesus' teachings, lives of saints and the different events in the Church's liturgical calendar.
- Opportunities will exist for children of all ages to experience learning beyond the classroom. This will allow them to enrich their knowledge by, for example, visiting different places of worship, local parish church, Salford Catholic Cathedral, including other faiths.
- Children will develop a deep understanding of the RE unit they are studying. They will increasingly use their prior knowledge to develop into religiously literate young people.
- In RE, children will develop the skills to make links and connections, engage and respond, analyse and evaluate using sources of evidence.
- Skills in other subjects will be applied in RE and children will be encouraged to investigate the faith with enthusiasm and rigour.
- Children will develop a real understanding and appreciation of the world learning from a range of sources and experiences.

Implementation

- The curriculum hours in RE are non-negotiable and will be followed by all staff in the school. Fixed timetables will be set before the academic year and monitored by the Senior Leadership Team of the school.
- RE specialists from our partner secondary school, St Peter's, are and will continue to be integral to the planning process. This will aid transition to Key Stage 3.
- The Subject Leader for RE will meet the Senior Leadership Team on a monthly basis to evaluate provision in order to ensure that teaching and learning in RE is outstanding. Where necessary, staff will receive coaching and training in RE.
- The Subject Leader for RE will attend termly CPD with Salford Diocese and feedback to staff in staff meetings, resources, assessments to fine tune or implement or agree as a team whole school events, such as launching the Year of the Word.
- Carefully designed schemes of learning in RE ensure consistency and progress of all learners. We follow the agreed syllabus 'The Way, the Truth and the life'.

- Each year group will study a number of units over the year. The units are developmental, building on previous knowledge and experience and taking into account of the children's age and understanding.
- The topics covered by each year group are as detailed on the curriculum overview.
- The RE curriculum will include participation in fundraising for charities such as the St. Joseph's Penny and CAFOD.
- RE is taught individually but plays a central role in all areas of school life.
- Success criteria in every RE lesson are set in order to guide children to achieve their potential. This ensures work is demanding and matches the aims of the curriculum.
- High quality teaching responds to the needs of children. Spiral learning is a key focus of all formative and summative assessment with teachers actively marking work in lessons in order to identify misconceptions early.
- Children will be highly engaged in RE lessons through the use of a variety of sources such as religious stories, scripture, religious artwork, songs, drama, music and religious signs and symbols.
- The life and work of key figures in the History of the people of God will be studied for example, lives of the saints.
- Approaches will include whole class teaching, group activities and individual work. Children will have opportunities to work individually as well as cooperatively and collaboratively, developing their own knowledge and expertise as well as sharing experiences with others.
- High quality input from experts and educational resources complement the delivery of specialist learning admirably. The idea of vocation will be developed in all year groups.
- Pupils will participate in Mass, feast days, Holy days. Collective worship which will involve children involved in planning, their prayers, religious actions and worship including the celebration of the sacraments. Children attend Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the parish church during their class' holy week and write a summary of their learning, for the parish newsletter.
- Reception children perform a Nativity play each Christmas for the school, parents, friends, parishioners and local community
- year 4 re-enact the Easter story for the school, parents, friends, parishioners and local community
- The use of visits and visitors in school will enhance the RE curriculum.

Impact

- Children are happy learners within RE. They experience a wide-ranging number of learning challenges in RE and know appropriate responses to them.
- Through RE, children deepen their appreciation of their faith and fulfil their God-given talents
- Visits within RE have enriched the lives of the children and they are able to discuss how the experience impacted their knowledge and understanding.
- Children of all abilities and backgrounds achieve well in RE, reflected in outstanding progress that reveals a clear learning journey. Children talk enthusiastically about their learning in RE and are eager to further their learning in the next stages of their education.
- Children learn from each other's religious teaching and experience at home, and it is recognised in class and throughout the school
- There is a proven track record of success in assessments that reflects the impact of deep learning.
- Clear outcomes focus and guide all RE development plans and drive improvement.
- Fundamental British Values are evident in RE and children understand how RE can celebrate difference.

- Children will understand the Catholic teaching, which will be focussed on each half term and how these relate to their personal life and to British Values
- The children will grow to know and love God, develop their moral and spiritual nature and deepen their faith.
- Children will live their faith in an active and positive way, always aware of the presence and love of Christ guiding them.
- Children will develop their relationship with God and become religiously literate.
- Through religious practice, the church's traditions of prayer and worship will be upheld.
- Faith plays a central role in the lives of the children and the decisions they make.
- Children are confident, resilient and actively engaged in the wider society.
- The school environment will reflect and celebrate our Catholic faith.
- Children will be able to define, describe and discuss areas of RE. They will confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, comparing, giving reasons, explaining the meaning of biblical stories and considering the impact of beliefs.
- Children will be able to reflect and consider important questions about RE.
- Through wider reading in RE, children will know about a wide variety of Saints, how we can learn from their example, and historical religious events and figures. They will be able to make links between Jesus' life and teaching and link it to their own lives, making links between different forms of Christian action, such as in rituals and charitable acts.