

Holy Family Catholic Primary School, New Springs

Mission Statement

We are a caring family, we pray, learn and grow together

Policy for Religious Education

(To be read alongside the policy for collective Prayer and Worship)

The foundation of all we believe in at Holy Family Catholic Primary School is underpinned and celebrated by our Mission Statement. Through this statement, we hope to build firm foundations for learning and a compassionate and caring school ethos. We seek to nourish God's love in ourselves and in one another, seeking to develop our learning community as one family, united in God's love.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: We are a caring family. We pray, learn and grow together.

Links with our Mission Statement

We are a caring Family.

With the Holy Family as our guide and inspiration, we provide a caring community where there is opportunity for everyone to develop and take a full part in the life of the school.

We pray together in order to build a closer relationship with God. Through prayer we develop a sense of wonder and awe and respond to God's gift of life. Our school is a place where everyone feels involved in prayer, worship, meditation and liturgy.

As a family we learn and grow in a loving community to become mature Christians who are prepared to witness to moral and spiritual values in the wider world.

Our Aims

Using the model of the 5Ws, as set out by Salford Diocese, we seek to promote the growth towards wholeness for every child in our school. In this setting, Holy Family's Religious Education Curriculum will:

- Make a significant contribution to the child's understanding of Faith so that they are capable of responding to the invitation of God and the challenges of life.
- Seek to help each person to live and grow in a Word of God community based on Gospel values and to foster positive links between home, parish and school.
- Provide a Welcoming Community within which the children can grow spiritually, gaining an understanding of the relationships between all Christians and develop positive attitudes towards people of other faiths.
- Seek to encourage a Welfare Community, where there is concern, care and respect for each other, for parents, for the Parish community, for the needs of God's world wide family and for the environment.
- Promote a Worshipping Community that develops and enables our children to express their own thoughts and feelings through prayer.
- Seek to help pupils to explore a Witnessing Community where they can share their own experiences in their search for the truth about God.

Implementing the Aims

At Holy Family School, the requirements of the curriculum are met mainly through the scheme Come and See. Come and See sets out ten programmes of study for each year group from Reception to Y6. Each programme of study contains the scope, objectives, learning outcomes, vocabulary, resources, assessment activities and suggested learning activities.

The children at Holy Family are enabled to

- Grow in knowledge and openness to the mystery of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Become familiar with the person, life, and teachings of Jesus, who is Saviour and Lord, reveals both the face of God and the fullness of what it means to be human.
- Grow in experience, knowledge and understanding of the Church, her life and teachings, the Church's significance in the world today, and the Church's concern for peace and justice.
- Develop a moral awareness as they reflect upon human conditions, in their own and other's lives in the light of the Christian message.
- Prepare for, participate in and appreciate liturgical prayer and worship.
- Grow in understanding and appreciation of Scripture and its place in Christianity, the Sacraments and the Church.
- Grow in knowledge and understanding of the Catholic traditions and way of life.
- Experience as a school the Faith Journey undertaken by members of Y3 as they receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

To ensure that the children can engage fully in the programme of study for R.E., 10% of the teaching week is dedicated to the teaching of R.E.

Evaluation of Learning

Pupil learning at Holy Family is evaluated during pupil/teacher discussion, children's work and through teacher assessment. Progress and achievement is assessed in terms of knowledge, understanding and appreciation, in relation to their age and capabilities of:

- Domestic Church – family
- Baptism/Confirmation - belonging
- Advent/Christmas - loving
- Local Church - community
- Eucharist - relating
- Lent/Easter – giving
- Pentecost – serving
- Reconciliation – inter-relating
- Universal Church – world
- Other religions.

Children's learning is undertaken through a variety of approaches:

- Teacher guided sessions, where information is provided.
- Class discussion lessons where children are encouraged to join in with their personal opinions.
- The use of differentiated tasks
- The use of role –play
- The use of audio visual aids in presenting material to the children.
- The use of visits where possible so that children gain first hand experience
- The use of outside speakers with relevant experience.

Evaluation of Teaching

The quality of teaching at Holy Family School is evaluated in terms of the teachers' ability to relate effectively to the pupils and to engage and motivate them in their learning.

Evaluations will be made by:

- Discussions which will inform members of staff and the R.E. co-ordinator of planning and provision.
- Observation of displays and the classroom environment
- Observation and monitoring of lessons and Collective Worship
- Monitoring of schemes of work and half termly planning
- Monitoring of children's work
- Talking to children
- Marking and assessment of children's work.

The role of the RE. Co-ordinator

The RE. Co-ordinator:

- Together with the Head teacher leads in policy development.
- Supports colleagues in their implementation of the Religious Programme.
- Takes responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central religious resources.
- Keeps up to date with the developments in Religious Education and disseminates information to colleagues.
- Monitors medium term planning.
- Guides on assessment of pupil's work.