



Religious Education Policy

All Saints Catholic School



“We are all one in Christ, our mission and our responsibility is to recognize all individuals in our community as part of the body of Christ and to value them accordingly in our treatment of them, thriving and progressing in a spirit of togetherness”

(1 Cor. 12:29)

Approved by Chair of Governor:	Yes	Date: April 2024
Last reviewed on:	April 2024	
Next review due:	April 2025	



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

"We are all one in Christ, our mission and our responsibility is to recognize all individuals in our community as part of the body of Christ and to value them accordingly in our treatment of them, thriving and progressing in a spirit of togetherness"

(1 Cor. 12:29)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INTENT

"Religious Education is the core of the core curriculum"

(St Pope John Paul II).

The religious education curriculum is founded upon the discovery of *truth*. The Catholic Church proclaims that it has the fullness of truth and **RE allows us to examine the teachings** of Christ and His Church and their application in society today. We seek the development of goodness in the person for the betterment of society. We learn how to discuss, analyse, debate and evaluate. Above all, RE at All Saints is about helping us to discover our true calling and grow in holiness. We are also intent upon giving all pupils an experience of the beauty of the created world and the beauty of our lived faith. The beauty of narrative as a means of conveying truth, the wonder of miracles, the mystery of the sacraments are all central to the mission of the school and the RE curriculum propels this mission.

Religious Education is concerned not only with intellectual knowledge but also includes emotional and affective learning. It is in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of what it is to be human truly becomes clear. Without religious education, pupils would be deprived of an essential element of their formation and personal development, which helps them attain a vital harmony between faith and culture."

(Religious Education Curriculum Directory, p4).

THE AIMS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education at All Saints:

- Develops a desire for knowledge and love of God and Jesus Christ for staff and pupils
- Encourages a loving "family" relationship within the community
- Celebrates uniqueness and value as individuals
- Is ambitious for all pupils
- Encourages an appreciation for the wonders and beauty of creation
- Provides opportunities for contemplation, reflection and growth of a prayer life
- Is coherently planned and sequenced to help pupils explore the beliefs, values, way of life the Catholic tradition within the liturgical calendar, the mass, sacraments, traditional prayers and through the life of the saints

- Is successfully adapted, designed and developed for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities
- Is broad and balanced for all pupils
- Fosters links with families to encourage commitment to the Catholic faith

Pupils should be able to:

- Work within a variety of learning situations – individual, paired, group, class, co-curricular
- Develop ways of thinking, feeling, praying and acting which will lead them to be reflective, open and enquiring

In order to achieve these aims we:

- Take into account the Catholic nature of the school and our mission statement as being “One in Christ”
- Are a vehicle for promoting RUAH
- Are in line with Diocesan policy and guidelines
- Ensure our aims are realistic and achievable
- Ensure pupils feel known and supported by all
- Ensure content and lesson planning is suited to the age and development of the pupils
- Are sensitive to the religious background and experience of pupils and families and to other faith traditions by being invitation and including all pupils in the school and lessons
- Reflect cross-curricular links with a focus on CST
- Review and evaluate the curriculum regularly

Content of the Religious Education Curriculum

Content of the Religious Education Curriculum RE has 10% of the curriculum time at KS3 and KS4 and Core RE is taught for one lesson a week at KS5 (5%).

The content for RE is provided in the Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools which is itself based on the Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

<https://catholiceducation.org.uk/schools/religious-education/item/1000034-religious-education-curriculum-directory>

KS3:

The Religious Education Directory RED 2025

Our KS3 curriculum is based on The Religious Education Directory programmes of study which is approved by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. The programme of study has a framework which includes six curriculum branches that correspond to the six half – terms of a school year. The six curriculum branches are:

1. Creation & Covenant
2. Prophecy & Promises
3. Galilee to Jerusalem
4. Desert to Garden
5. To the ends of the Earth
6. Dialogue & Encounter

KS4

Students study the GCSE in Religious Studies (Edexcel Specification A). They will take the following exam papers:

Paper 1A: Catholic Christianity (1h 45 mins / 50%)

Paper 2F: Judaism (50 mins / 25%)

Paper 3A: Philosophy and Ethics [Catholic Christianity] (50 mins / 25%)

Edexcel GCSE Specification

This specification includes contemporary and philosophical topics such as the existence of God, the Problem of Evil, Life after Death, Abortion, Euthanasia, Freedom of Speech, Marriage and the Family. However, pupils also gain a deeper insight into the Roman Catholic faith studying such topics as the Trinity, Apostolic Tradition, Papal Authority, the Sacraments, Vocation and the Sermon on the Mount.

As a result, the course also asks students to consider various challenges to the Catholic faith and the Church's moral teaching. From this enquiry, pupils will search their own conscience and be equipped to articulate their faith in the wider world. Moreover, they will also have the critical thinking skills and the knowledge to follow their own vocation with confidence.

KS5

Students study the GCE in Religious Studies (OCR Specification). They will take the following exam papers:

Component 1: Philosophy of religion

Component 2: Religion and ethics

Component 3: Developments in religious thought - Christianity

Component 01: Philosophy of religion

Students study philosophical language and thought, and issues and questions raised by belief:

- Ancient philosophical influences
- the nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- The nature and impact of religious experience
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language.

Component 02: Religion and ethics

Students explore key concepts and the works of influential thinkers, ethical theories and their application:

- Normative ethical theories
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Component 03: Developments in religious thought

- Christianity (03)

They explore:

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Sixth Form Core RE

All pupils in the Sixth Form take the Core RE course. The contact time for pupils is one lesson (100 minutes) every two weeks.

RSE - TEN:TEN

Pupils follow the Ten:Ten programme for Relationship & Sex Education from Year 7 – Year 13.



R.E. PATHWAY



Ten:Ten Resources

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YEAR 7

RELATIONSHIP & SEX EDUCATION

The programme of study for RSE for pupils in KS3 is taught using TEN:TEN resources.

YEAR 9

YEAR 8



GCSE
Y10 & Y11



PAPER 1
CATHOLIC
CHRISTIANITY

PAPER 2
JUDAISM

PAPER 3
PHILOSOPHY
&
ETHICS

PAPER 1
PHILOSOPHY OF
RELIGION

PAPER 2
RELIGION & ETHICS

PAPER 3
DEVELOPMENTS IN CHRISTIAN
THOUGHTS



A LEVEL
Y12 & Y13



Diocese of
Brentwood



National Office
for Vocation
Helping people hear God's call



CORE RE
Y12 & Y13



AllSaints
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Review

The policy will be reviewed as part of the regular cycle of policy review conducted by the governors.