



## Religious Education Intent

### #LearningForLifeAnchoredInChrist

#### Intent

As a Church of England School, we ensure all children receive the statement of entitlement for RE: *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 educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live well together.*

At St. Clement's, we aim to teach a full curriculum that prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in modern Britain. We provide our children with a range of experiences that enable them to develop an understanding about the beliefs of other people, while allowing them to explore their own ideas and develop a positive sense of their own beliefs and thoughts. Through an enquiry-based approach, each unit of work is introduced with a 'big question' where the children can both explore and deepen their understanding of over a period of time.

At St Clement's we reflect the beliefs of the Christian Church and all members of staff work to support the ethos and atmosphere of the school. Christianity, therefore, forms the core of the RE curriculum. Our school serves families from other faiths. We therefore, raise pupil's awareness with a loving and caring attitude to the fundamentals of some of the major world religions and world views. In doing so we have an opportunity to contribute positively to the development of a society where faith helps individuals to understand one another. Differing cultures have a richness of literature, music etc. that can widen the horizons of all children in school. As we begin to understand one another's culture and faith so we break down barriers of intolerance and misunderstanding.

Our RE curriculum both supports and provides our children with a safe environment where they feel confidence to share their ideas, opinions and beliefs and through open discussion, encourages children to widen their experiences and their understanding of their own role within the school community and the wider world.

Through our Religious Education curriculum we aim:

- to engage pupils in enquiring into and exploring questions arising from the study of religion and belief, so as to promote their personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- 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.
- to provide learners with knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religious traditions and beliefs represented in Great Britain.
- to develop their understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook.
- to enable learners to apply the insights of the principal religious traditions to their own search for identity and significance.
- to enable learners to become aware of their own beliefs and values and to have a positive attitude to the search for meaning and purpose in life.
- to encourage learners to develop a positive attitude towards other people who hold religious beliefs different from their own.
- to enable each child to develop a deeper understanding of faith, promote respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other races and religions
- to foster the growth of each child's potential through the development of respect for self and others
- to promote the individual talents and abilities of pupils to ensure that each child fulfils his or her full potential.

- to promote an understanding and care of the environment in which each child finds him or herself.
- to promote a close and co-operative relationship between home, community and school.
- for pupils to develop a well-formed conscience allowing them to make sound moral judgements.
- to prepare children for life in a multi faith society by fostering respect for and understanding of rich cultural diversity.

Central to religious education in Church schools is the study of Christianity as a living and diverse faith, focused on the teaching of Jesus and the Church. There is a clear expectation that as inclusive communities, church schools provide sequenced learning about a range of religions and worldviews fostering respect for others. At St.Clement's we want our children to leave us knowing being anchored in Jesus Christ will guide them with hope, compassion and wisdom in becoming successful members of a global community, humbly treating all with dignity and compassion.

## Implementation

RE offers children opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development. It considers the influence of religion on individuals, families, communities and cultures. We teach RE through two schemes ( Understanding Christianity and Discovery RE) which both offer an enquiry based approach to Religious Studies. Children think about questions that link faith and the impact on everyday life. The children enjoy questioning and discussion and the chance to share their own experiences and beliefs, whilst respecting those of others. In following these schemes, we look at the two central attainment targets. AT1 Learning about Religion and AT2 Learning from Religion.

The long term plan for RE gives a broad coverage of major world religions and world views and as we are aware of the religious beliefs of the majority of our curriculum, whilst the curriculum is mainly Christian, we have ensured there is appropriate coverage and depth of Islam across the key stages/school. Weekly RE lessons build on prior knowledge from past years groups where appropriate or previous lessons. All Christian celebrations are shared in daily worship - Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. We celebrate with children of other faiths the commonality of joyous occasions (Diwali, Chinese New Year, Eid ul-Fitr) as appropriate.

## Impact

Each unit of RE begins and ends with a quiz and there are opportunities throughout for teachers to make formative assessments of where the children are at. Discussion contributions and reflections help staff determine how pupils are responding to themes and whether they are reflecting on their own and other's beliefs and opinion.

We want children to move up through the school with children leaving Year 6 with a sound knowledge of Christianity and some other world faiths. We want children to have successfully explored what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living. We hope RE at St.Clement's has inspired children to think about others in their class, the local and global community and be a catalyst for both courageous advocacy and spirituality, complementing each other whilst being woven into the very fabric of our school.