

# St. Cuthbert's C.E. Primary School - Religious Education Policy

## Aims

In North Yorkshire's schools, Religious Education is concerned to help pupils develop an open, sensitive and reflective approach to understanding humankind's varied religious practices, values, beliefs and lifestyles, relating these to their own experiences & to questions of everyday life.

Our Religious Education programme will enable children to understand the nature of religious beliefs and practices and the importance & influence of these in the lives of the believer. As a consequence it will allow time for reflection on & response to the children's own beliefs & practices.

We will introduce the children to the key beliefs and practices of Christianity and selected world faiths - dependent on Key Stage - drawing on a wide range of resources in school, within our local community & beyond.

Our Religious Education will offer opportunities to consider and address multi-cultural & equal opportunities issues.

## Syllabus

As St. Cuthbert's is a Voluntarily Controlled C.E. School we are required to follow the New North Yorkshire syllabus for Religious Education. We aim to help pupils to acquire and develop knowledge & understanding of Christianity and the other world religions & the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures.

## Foundation Stage

During the Foundation Stage children begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects and visiting places of worship. Children listen to and talk about stories. They are introduced to specialist words and use their senses in exploring religious beliefs, practices and forms of expression. They reflect upon their feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.

## Key Stages 1 and 2

In line with the North Yorkshire agreed syllabus pupils should be taught:

### Key Stage 1

- Include 2 units from the new syllabus and one other study (this may be from the previous North Yorkshire units).
- Christmas & Easter.

- At least one other major faith tradition. (Hinduism)

## Key Stage 2

At St. Cuthbert's the agreed syllabus is delivered through the use of the North Yorkshire planning units to ensure coverage and progression including at least two other major faiths.

## Equal Opportunities

In accordance with the school's Equalities scheme all children have a right to a broad & balanced curriculum with the same access given to all pupils regardless of race, gender, religion, disability, economic & social background, & any other factors which limit progress. Religious Education is planned to take account of these diverse needs & to challenge prejudice.

## The Right of Withdrawal

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from religious education. If they wish to do so they should contact the Head Teacher.

Reviewed Summer 2014

Review Date Summer 2017

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....