

RE Policy



Believe Enjoy Succeed Together
"I can do everything through God who gives me strength"
Philippians 4:13

Cronton CE Primary School

The KEYS Curriculum

Knowledge and skills

Empower

You to

Succeed

Keys To Success



Knowledge



Skills



Vocabulary

KEYS Curriculum

At Cronton CE Primary School our KEYS Curriculum is built around the National Curriculum, enriched to reflect the children and community we teach in. As a church school our Christian ethos and school values are the heart of everything we do. We believe every child can be their BEST. With our Vision statement reflecting this.

"I can do everything through God who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13



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Curriculum Intent

Our Curriculum has been designed by Cronton CE to provide a bespoke, unique and exciting curriculum that is tailor-made to suit our children, their learning and their futures. Every child is unique and important. They are at the centre of their learning; starting as part of a class, whole school, the local community and then on to their future role in modern Britain and as a future global citizen. Our KEYS curriculum develops each child and the understanding that **Knowledge and skills Empower You to Succeed**.

We maintain a broad and balanced approach to our curriculum, which alongside English and Mathematics will provide our children with skills, knowledge and vocabulary rich experiences that excite and engage. We will foster attitudes and qualities which will enable them to become confident, caring, respectful and responsible citizens. We offer a spiritual, moral, social and cultural experience for all through our curriculum and also through extra-curricular clubs and activities, day trips and residential trips away. Our curriculum delivers sequenced learning to ensure it will build upon what children already know to give them powerful knowledge and skills and make relevant links.

Our curriculum ensures that all children receive quality first teaching for every subject with the highest of expectation for all. We provide a quality education that is inclusive and equips our children to be lifelong learners. We use a wide variety of resources to assist us in delivering this bespoke curriculum including specialist teachers, visits and curriculum enhancement weeks and ensure links and relationships are meaningful to them. We deliver this through our Values Curriculum, Core Curriculum and our Foundation Curriculum.

This policy is designed to state the approaches and aims towards the teaching and assessment of the R.E curriculum in Cronton C. E Primary School. With the emphasis on the Christian teachings from the Bible, it also serves to state aims that the children are taught multi-cultural beliefs and aspects of morality in line with the Church of England's doctrine.

Intent

The Aims of Religious Education as a Church of England School, the foundation of our approach is the Christian faith. The school enjoys strong links with the church, and this allows everyone to learn about and practice Christian beliefs, and all are invited to take part in its community life. The school is committed to respecting the personal values and beliefs (religious or otherwise) of parents and children. As an Aided Church of England school, we believe that R.E. in general and Christian teaching in particular play an important part in our teaching explicitly through weekly R.E lessons and implicitly through our teaching of the Christian values in collective worship and in everyday school life. These lessons are linked also to the statements on collective worship and the social, cultural and moral development.

They are also linked to the mission statement and the general aims of the school which are: Our mission is:

To provide a wide range of high-quality educational and life experiences so that the children can attain their full potential within a happy and Christian environment based on Gospel values.

Our aims for RE:

- Based on the Christian faith, we aim to teach the children to be considerate and respectful of themselves, others and the environment with everyone leading by example and demonstrating our belief in the gospel values.



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- We aim to develop the children in our care by giving them wide ranging experiences so that they gain knowledge and understanding of the world about them and value the opportunities that they have.
- We aim to give them a firm grounding in the skills needed to succeed by being literate, numerate, creative and to possess technology skills to discover information for themselves within a safe, purposeful and open learning environment.
- We aim to develop the whole child so that they are confident and motivated to learn and develop their own individual abilities and talents in order to achieve success that is recognised and celebrated.
- We aim to make school a place of happy memories and enjoyable learning, where all children are given a chance to shine and to leave the school as well-rounded individuals.
- We aim to involve the parents in the partnership of their child's education at our school and foster relationships that will support the development of their child.
- We aim to develop our own skills and knowledge as we recognise that learning is a lifelong journey and all staff are committed to their own development to benefit ourselves and the children we teach.
- To give the children in our care an understanding of the teachings of the Church of England, its principles and practices, appropriate to their age and ability.
- To give the children an insight into the wealth of stories from the old and new testaments, and how these are linked to our living in a Christian way.
- To introduce children to the fact that other people in our world have different beliefs from us, and to begin to develop in the pupils an understanding and respect of these faiths.
- To help children try to answer bigger questions in life.
- To develop spiritual awareness, vocabulary and concepts necessary for the potential of faith awareness.
- To make a distinctive contribution to the spiritual, moral, cultural, social and academic development of our children.
- To support our children in reflecting upon, developing and affirming their own beliefs, values and attitudes through an exploration of shared human experiences and of the place and significance of religion in the contemporary world.



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- To celebrate our school values underpinned by our Christian beliefs and the Gospel values – respect, truthfulness, celebration, kindness and consideration, generosity, responsibility, patience and self-control and inclusion.
- To begin to develop their own beliefs, attitudes, moral values and practices through a process of personal search, discovery and critical evaluation.
- To foster the spiritual, moral, social, cultural development making sure that RE is an integral part of the curriculum

These aims shall be achieved through the following objectives:

- By following the Liverpool Diocese R.E. syllabus for C.E. Primary Schools.
- By following the objectives of the agreed syllabus.
- By following the school's agreed outline plan of topics and themes taken from the above documents.
- By weekly R.E. lessons.

Implementation

It has been agreed that:

- The R.E. Syllabus for Primary School published by the Blackburn Diocesan Board be the main source for the planning and teaching of R.E. in Cronton C.E. School. This is supplemented by Understanding Christianity units.
- Christian and non- Christian faiths – Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Sikhism will be taught throughout Key Stage 1 and 2.
- Children are also given the opportunity to celebrate other religious festivals through cross curricular and multicultural links.

The Approach to R.E.

We try to use a variety of teaching methods at the school as we feel each topic and subject cannot be treated in the same way. Depending on the topic being covered, this may include class, group, partner or individual work, visits, the use of religious artefacts, visitors, use of I.C.T and drama.

Time Allocation

R.E. should take up to 5% of the timetable - roughly one hour per week. This does not include the collective worship time and other enrichments. (See collective worship policy)

The Teaching of R.E.

As a Church of England School it is expected that, when possible, all teaching staff will teach R.E. However, should a member of staff feel that they are unable to teach the subject on personal belief grounds, then another teacher will take the class for R.E.

The teaching will be organised in year groups.

Arrangement for pupils to be withdrawn from R.E.



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Parents can, if they so wish, ask to withdraw their child from R.E lessons. If this happens, the child will be given extra work and sent to another classroom to be supervised. However, we do not encourage children to be withdrawn from any lessons – this way the child receives a broad and balanced curriculum. Parents also have the right to remove their children from Collective Worship.

The Co-ordinator

While being responsible for the co-ordination of R.E, collecting samples of children's work and examples of staff planning and looking after the resources, it is the responsibility of all staff to implement the R.E. syllabus. Most resources will be kept in the R.E cupboard situated in the school hall. Each faith has an individually labelled storage box containing resources, artefacts and a contents list. Staff should make sure that any books or artefacts are returned to the appropriate boxes after use. The Understanding Christianity file and resources are kept in the meeting room so all staff can access them when required.

Impact

The impact of RE is clear to see when you walk the corridors at Cronton CofE. This is evident in the way children interact and talk to one another, the way staff and children interact, the way that prayer is a real part of school life, the appreciation that children have for the world around them and the beliefs and values of others in their community, and in the way that children have a real understanding of spirituality. RE is a valued and loved subject by children and children see this as a real time to gain knowledge and understanding, but also to reflect and ask questions.

Assessment, recording and reporting.

The Questful RE syllabus provides assessment criteria for teachers to use to formatively assess children's understanding as the unit is taught. This feeds into following lessons and future planning. We assess RE at the end of a taught unit using our Windows, Mirrors, Doors assessment tool. This allows children to show their understanding of a unit (Windows) as well as allowing them to reflect spiritually on their learning on what it means for them (Mirrors) and what they might do or change now as a result (Doors). This assessment tool means that learning is not just trivial, but deeply meaningful. Teachers use these assessments to inform their judgements which are placed on our Trust assessment system: AskEddi. The children's attainment in RE is reported to parents at the end of the academic year on their child's report.

Courageous Advocacy

Courageous advocacy is defined by the Church of England as "the act of speaking out against an issue of injustice, often on behalf of those whose voice is not heard."

A courageous advocate is someone who supports, champions and speaks up for a cause that is important and meaningful to them. Courage is needed to persevere and stand up for something or someone you believe in, to make a difference.

Courageous Advocacy at Cronton CE

At Cronton C of E Primary School we want to support and encourage our children to become courageous advocates, not just locally but nationally and globally.



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At some point in life we will all face challenges and need support to help us overcome these barriers. We teach our children that it is important to help others when we see a need. We teach this in many ways: through our work on Christian values; through our class worship looking at Picture News; by looking at and reflecting on stories from the Bible and other world faiths and world views, as well as learning about other courageous advocates. We want our children to have confidence to discuss and debate big ideas, to challenge injustice and engage in activities that can bring about change on some level.

All acts of courageous advocacy at Cronton are driven by our school's Christian vision: "I can do everything through God who gives me strength" which reminds us that, in all situations, God gives us strength to be courageous and 'agents of change'. Children act together with a purpose that people may live happily together in unity. Our Trust's vision encompasses God's vision that everyone should live well together. Courage is one of our core Christian values and is at the heart of all actions and decision making by children and adults. Another core Christian value is service. We actively promote the value of serving God and loving and serving our local and wider communities.

Jesus spoke up for people who were disadvantaged, disempowered and ignored by their communities. Children are encouraged to reflect on Jesus' actions and teachings to inform their own values, judgements and courageous choices. Other learning experiences, including, PSHE lessons, character education and learning about British values, enables children to grow in character and independence, develop their sense of respect and justice, and grow in courage "to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves" (Proverbs 31:8).

It's our belief that everyone has the power to change the world for the better. To this end, we know that all of our pupils and our whole school community has the potential to be advocates of change, and we both encourage and celebrate them taking responsibility for doing this within the school community and wider afield.

Throughout our school, and in particular our PSHE and RE curriculums, we learn of opportunities for social action and where appropriate to challenge injustice. Every child learns about courageous advocates from across the globe, both past and present, that have faced injustice and overcome barriers in order to help others for the greater good. As part of their learning, the children reflect on what injustice these courageous advocates have faced and how they changed the world for the better.

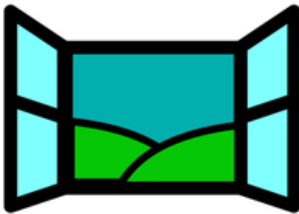


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Spirituality at Cronton CE

Our shared language for spirituality:

WINDOWS



LEARNING

- Opportunities for children to be aware of the world in new ways, looking out into the world.
- To wonder about life's 'WOWS'. Things that are amazing.
- To think about life's 'OWS' that take us by surprise!
- Learning about life in all its fullness.

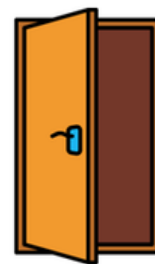
MIRRORS



REFLECTING

- Opportunities to reflect on their experiences.
- Looking inside yourself.
- Consider life's big questions and reach for some possible answers.
- Learning from life by exploring our own insights and those of others.

DOORS



RESPONDING

- Opportunities for children to respond.
- Moving onto a new path or situation.
- To do something creative to develop and apply our ideas.
- Learning to live out our beliefs and values.

We have a Windows, Mirrors, Doors display in our school hall. Each week, worship is ended with a reflection and reflection questions are sent back to class. Children respond to these in their own way, at their own time, during the week.

Here is an example below:

How did the Samaritan show respect to the man?

Do you think it is important to treat EVERYBODY with respect? Why?

What ways can you show respect to EVERYBODY today?



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We also use this language as an assessment tool in foundation subjects. Using this means that learning goes from being just head knowledge and instead becomes transformative and meaningful: it becomes heart knowledge.

Here is an example below of how it has been used in RE at the end of a unit on Pilgrimages:

Life as a Journey - Reflection Task



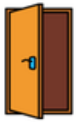
LEARNING

What have you seen about pilgrimages during this topic?



REFLECTING

Do you think life is like a journey? Why?
What has been the most significant moment in your life journey?



RESPONDING

Draw a picture of you in your future job. Around your picture, write down some things that you would like to have achieved or some characteristics you would like to be known for.