The Slough and East Berkshire C. of E.

Multi Academy Trust

Colnbrook C. of E. Primary School

School Policy Statement for Religious Education

Owner:	Senior Leadership Team
Date Reviewed:	March 2025
Date Guidance to be reviewed:	March 2027

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Our Vision Statement

At Colnbrook we want to grow young people who believe in themselves, so they are confident and courageous and not discouraged from their path. They are resilient when faced with challenge. We want our pupils to believe in each other and to feel supported; never alone on their journey.

Our pupils will have the strength of character to set themselves aspirational goals in learning and life. They will achieve their best and create their own inspirational story and memories.

These values are at the heart of everything we do here at Colnbrook Church of England Primary School. They reflect the qualities that staff and governors want the children to develop and display in all that they do.

Aspiration, Resilience, Respect, Responsibility, Community, Compassion.

The Legal Position

The school, in accordance with its Trust Deed, provides religious education for all pupils registered at the school. Following advice from the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education, the Governors decided that religious education in our school should be based upon the Pan Berkshire agreed syllabus. Religious education has the same status and importance as any other subject and, as such, the same high standards are applied to this as to other subjects.

Aims of Religious Education

Religious education aims to help pupils to:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain;
- develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own and towards living in a society of diverse religions (summarised from the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education).

The purpose of religious education does not include any attempt to alter a child's beliefs. Indeed, reflecting the inclusive ethos of the school our religious education programme is designed not 'to convert pupils or urge a particular religion or religious belief on pupils'. (Agreed Syllabus quoting from the DFE circular 1/94 paragraph 32)

Planning and Delivery

The religious education curriculum is based on two key aspects of learning laid down in the locally agreed syllabus:

Learning about religion
Learning from religion

At Colnbrook we have created our own curriculum, suitable for our community, by blending together the schemes 'Understanding Christianity' and 'Discovery RE'. This offers our children a diverse range of experiences and allows for meaningful discussion within lessons. Each year starts with a unit focused on one of our core Christian values; Resilience, Respect, Community, Aspiration, Compassion and Responsibility and ensures progression throughout the school allowing the children to build on their knowledge. As suggested in the aims of the subject, all pupils will learn about Christianity and other world faiths in a course in which Christianity will clearly predominate. Each year group studies three unit of Christianity and two units of another world religion.

KS1- Christianity and Judaism
LKS2- Christianity, Hinduism and Islam
UKS2- Christianity, Sikhism and Islam

They will explore these in relation to a number of 'Big Questions' throughout the year. Where possible, teaching will be supplemented with trips to places of worship or visits from people from religious communities.

Teaching, Learning and Achievement

Learning will be organised to encourage the development of attitudes such as self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder.
A variety of resources, styles, and techniques will be used as appropriate. Pupils will engage in activities which will also enable teachers to assess what they have learnt. Records kept will include information about pupils' experiences and judgements about their attainment and progress.

Withdrawal from religious education

Parents may withdraw their children from all or any part of religious education and teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers will feel comfortable with the type of religious education being taught at this school. Parents who wish to withdraw their children must provide written notification to this effect.