



MORDIFORD C of E  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Treasure each individual*

NURTURE

INSPIRE

FLOURISH

**Mordiford CE Primary School**

## **Religion and Worldviews (RW) Policy**

### **'Treasure Each Individual'**

As a church school, we are distinctly Christian in our ethos and outlook, using the Church of England vision for education as an underlying guide to all we do.

Our school ethos is encapsulated in 3 words : **Nurture, Inspire, Flourish**

The ethos is underpinned by Jesus' parable of the mustard seed :

**'Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.'**

**(Matthew 13 v31-32)**

Our vision statement below describes what we hope to achieve for all of our students:

At Mordiford Primary school we **treasure each individual**, believing that everyone is unique and valued by God. We create a **nurturing, inspiring** and challenging learning community rooted in Christian values : **compassion, respect and love**. We aim to provide an outstanding education for our pupils underpinned by a **growth mindset** philosophy enabling our pupils to be responsible, confident and empowered so they can grow and **flourish** as young adults.

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the Head teacher, RW subject leader and teaching staff. It was approved by governors in July 2020 and will be reviewed in July 2023.

As of September 2021 we have made the decision to rename RE as RW (Religion and Worldviews) to encompass all views within our community, throughout the United Kingdom and around the world.

## **Context**

- The context of RW at Mordiford CE Primary is that of a small rural village primary school, serving children in the age range 4 – 11 years (EYFS – Y6).
- We teach according to the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus/Understanding Christianity, alongside aspects of Discovery RE.
- Although we are a very mono-cultural school we recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child and we are glad to have the active support of religious and non-religious members of our local community to support our teaching of RW.
- We recognize the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which the RW curriculum plays in some of these areas.

## **The Aims of RW at Mordiford CE Primary school**

Region and Worldviews (RW) at Mordiford CE Primary School will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are that:

- the basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll.
- the content of RW shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain.
- the RW which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Herefordshire.

The legal requirements for RW are:

The national curriculum states the legal requirement that:

**'Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based, and which:**

- **promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils; and**
- **prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.**

**All state schools ... must teach religious education ... All schools must publish their curriculum by subject and academic year online'.**

(National Curriculum in England: Framework Document, DfE, September 2013, p.4)

Academies and free schools must teach RE within the requirements for a locally agreed syllabus, set out in section 375 (3) of the Education Act 1996 and paragraph (5) of Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The requirements are that a syllabus must 'reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are, in the main, Christian while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain'

**Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, the aims in RW at Mordiford CE Primary school are for pupils to:**

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom.
- develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally.
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom.
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
  - developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them.
  - responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience.
  - reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study.

- develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

### **Time Allocation**

It is recommended that RW is taught for a minimum of 36 hours per year at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two.

The time allocated for teaching RW at Mordiford CE Primary School is:

EYFS planned within the EYFS Framework - approx. 30 - 45 minutes per week

KS1 - 1 hour (1 hour 30 minutes) per week approximately

KS2 - 1 hour 30 minutes (2 hours) per week approximately

RW curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship, even when the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not included in RW.

### **Scheme of Work**

A scheme of work based on the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus/Understanding Christianity/Discovery RE is available for teachers and other interested people alongside this policy. It has been written in the light of the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity.

EYFS themes - emerging from the EYFS Framework

KS1 – Christianity (Y1/2) and Judaism (Y2)

Lower KS2 – Christianity (Y3/4), Hinduism (Y3) and Sikhism (Y4)

Upper KS2 – Christianity (Y5/6), Islam (Y5) and Humanism (Y6)

Year 5 (Old Testament) and Year 6 (New Testament) also take part in 'Walk Through Bible' sessions.

### **Teaching and Learning Strategies**

Since September 2018 RW at Mordiford CE Primary school has been taught by the RE subject lead across the school as part of PPA cover. This has ensured progression, continuity and delivery across the school. This approach will continue for the foreseeable future.

Our policy is to aim to ensure the use in RW of art, drama, thinking skills, speaking and listening activities, visits, posters, photographs, videos, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies. Cross curricular work is encouraged, in line with whole school policy on teaching and learning.

We recognise the importance of teaching to the Agreed Syllabus/our chosen syllabus in a creative, knowledge-rich, broad and balanced way.

### **Resources**

We have a range of resources, to support our RW teaching, that we continue to develop.

Resources are stored in the resources room and Severn Suite, and should be returned after use.

Our school has invested in new books/religious artefacts/DVDs/picture packs/posters. Our staff are given protected time to familiarize themselves with any new materials. We maintain a RW area in the library, which offers non-fiction/fiction from different traditions. A regular audit of resources takes place by the RE subject leader in order to update our collection.

We encourage school families to donate appropriate artefacts for RW.

### **Visits and visitors**

We are able to visit some places of worship in the immediate vicinity of the school, where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in the teaching of RE. However, we do find that we must travel to the larger towns/cities in the region to visit other places of worship eg, mosque, gurdwara etc.

We aim to use these valuable resources for all classes where possible. Where possible, all pupils have the opportunity to visit a place of worship and when appropriate participate in the visit of a representative to their RE class.

Guidance on visits and visitors can be found in the school office.

Children will have the opportunity to make the following visits during their time at Mordiford CE Primary School (though these are subject to revision if necessary)

Year 1 – Holy Rood church

Year 2 – Holy Rood church

Year 3 – Holy Rood church, Gloucester – mandir

Year 4 - Holy Rood church, Birmingham – gurdwara, synagogue

Year 5 – Holy Rood church, Birmingham – mosque, synagogue. Holmer school  
faith day

Year 6 – Holy Rood church, Hereford Cathedral,

The RW subject leader supports class teachers to organise these educational visits.

### **Matching Work to Pupils' Needs**

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special needs and differentiation, applies to RW. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational ability.

### **Assessment**

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in RW to parents, as required by law. The Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus - our chosen syllabus provides descriptions of progress and attainment, which the school has agreed to use as a basis for reporting at the end of each key stage. We make specific, individual, accurate comments on each child's progress in RE in annual reports, based on regular monitoring of work and transfer this information to new schools when pupils leave us.

Pupils' are given a RW book in Y1 and this book moves onto the next class with the pupils. EYFS have a RW class floor book.

Each class provides the RW subject lead with books at the end of the academic year to cover Below Expected, Expected and Exceeded/Greater Depth levels as evidence. We also keep examples of pupils' work/experiences, which is designed to help teachers make judgments about attainment and progress, is available in Common Staff. The subject leader will co-ordinate the addition of pupils' work that provide clear evidence of progress and attainment. However, these are only examples and there does not need to be more examples that are useful. This approach to exemplifying standards aims to clarify our understanding of what makes for quality RW.

## **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

We intend that this policy should operate for the next three years, and then be fully reviewed by all staff and governors. The subject leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice. We maintain a 'self-evaluation' of our RW work in preparation for any scrutiny.

## **Self-Evaluation**

The subject leader for RW will assess and review the subject's strengths and areas for development in discussion with the Headteacher, link governor and Worship Crew. This can be in line with OFSTED guidance about self-evaluation and review.

## **Staff training and CPD**

All staff have access to RW CPD in line with the subject leader's identified areas for development. This is either 'in house' or from an external provider. The RW subject leader also attends local network meetings and SACRE conferences.

## **Transition**

We ensure that transition across key stages (including to KS3) includes a simple statement of the religions and topics that pupils have covered alongside their progress and achievement.

## **Withdrawal**

***'We are proud to teach inclusive and plural Religion and Worldviews (RW), following the local Agreed syllabus, to all our pupils, and to respect and affirm all the religions and worldviews represented in our community. We are happy to talk to parents about RW. We do not support selective withdrawals from RW'***

Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RW should be made in writing to the head teacher and a record kept of them.

Further guidance on withdrawal can be found in the school office.

**RE Link Governor:** Rev Chris Moore

**Named RE subject leader:** Mrs H Broadbridge

**Headteacher:** Mrs S Warmington

**Date:** September 2022

**Date for review:** March 2024

