



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

2024

Date	
Compiled by	
Ratified by Governors	
Date for review	
Amendments	

Looking to the future from the foundations of our past



Godfrey Ermen, local cotton mill owner, left money when he died for *“the benefit of any charitable philanthropic literary or educational institution . . . or in the formation and maintenance of hospitals, libraries, baths, wash-houses, model cottages, and generally in support of any object which may seem worthy of **encouragement** and assistance.”*



Reflecting on our Christian foundation, the Bible reminds us through St Paul's letter to the Thessalonians:

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”

Thessalonians 1 5:11

By honouring God and our trusted foundation, we desire to live out our values by **encouraging** each other to work together, serving God and our community, to be the best we can be for ourselves, our families, our community and the wider world.

We are going to **encourage** each other through our PRIDE values:

VALUE	FOUNDATION	We look to the future to...
	<p>In all the work you are doing, work the best you can.</p> <p>Colossians 3:23-24</p>	<p>...work hard. ... follow our learning rules.</p>
	<p>The whole law is made complete in one command: “Love your neighbour as you love yourself.”</p> <p>Galatians 5:14</p>	<p>...be kind and gentle. ... care for our environment.</p>
	<p>Continue to think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honourable and right and pure and beautiful and respected.</p> <p>Philippians 4:8</p>	<p>... listen. ... be honest.</p>
	<p>I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength.</p> <p>Philippians 4:13</p>	<p>... feel confident to try and know we can make mistakes. ... not give up.</p>
	<p>Now, in Christ, there is no difference between Jew and Greek. There is no difference between slaves and free men. There is no difference male and female. You are the same in Christ Jesus.</p> <p>Galatians 3:28</p>	<p>... be fair. ... keep each other happy.</p>

Policy for Religious Education (RE)

Aims and objectives:

Our aims of Religious Education are:

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Appropriate to age at the end of their education at Godfrey Ermen, the expectation is that all pupils are religiously literate and, as a minimum, pupils are able to:

- Give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- Show an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning.
- Engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.
- Reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions.

Religious Education at Godfrey Ermen enables pupils to:

- learn *about* other faiths, their beliefs, traditions and practices and *from* them through encounter and dialogue;
- recognise and respect those of all faiths in their search for God;
- recognise areas of common belief and practice between different faiths;
- enrich and expand their understanding of truth while remaining faithful to their own tradition;
- enrich their own faith through examples of holy living in other traditions.
- reflect theologically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society;
- reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief and see how the truth of Christianity is relevant today;
- understand the challenge faced by Christians in today's pluralist and post-modern society;
- develop the skills to handle the Bible text;
- recognise that faith is based on commitment to a particular way of understanding God and the world;
- begin to develop their own commitments, beliefs and values;
- develop a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious;
- engage in thoughtful dialogue with other faiths and traditions;
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour;
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world;
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition.;

Teaching and learning

We base our teaching and learning in RE on the key principle that good teaching in RE allows children both to learn about religious traditions and to reflect on what the religious ideas and concepts mean to them. Our teaching enables children to extend their own sense of values, and promotes their spiritual growth and development. We encourage children to think about their own views and values in relation to the themes and topics studied in the RE curriculum.

Quality first teaching of RE enables:

- pupils and teachers to talk openly and freely about their own personal beliefs and practice without fear of ridicule;
 - pupils to make excellent and appropriate progress in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity;
 - pupils from Christian families to talk openly about their beliefs and values in lessons and to grow in their faith;
 - pupils from other faith backgrounds to understand and be encouraged in their faith;
 - pupils with no religious background to be given an insight into what it means to be a person of faith;
 - pupils of all backgrounds to have a safe place to explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society.
-
- **SEN provision**
 - **The contribution of RE to Christian and British values**
 - **Resources**
 - **Assessment and record keeping which should be in accordance with guidance given in the Manchester Diocese RE Syllabus.**
 - **Parental Rights of Withdrawal in a Voluntary Aided School.**