



RE Education Policy

Waddington and West Bradford CE Primary School

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Date reviewed: September 2026

Next review: September 2027

1. Introduction: Our Christian Vision, Mission and Values

At Waddington and West Bradford Church of England Primary School, Religious Education lies at the heart of our curriculum and our identity as a Christian family. Our school values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy citizens.

In our Christian family, we Encourage, Serve and Respect everyone and Shine in the light of Jesus.

As members of God's family, we aim to love one another as Jesus loves us (John 15:12-13). We do our best to Encourage, Serve and Respect everyone (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Our Christian values of **compassion, hope, joy, forgiveness and courage** guide our behaviour towards each other, our local community and the wider world. Together we build each other up to be the person God has created us to be and shine in the light of Jesus.

We strive to:

- Serve God and be courageous, just as Jesus was courageous.
- Help one another to have compassion and learn forgiveness and respect.
- Support each other and bring joy to the community.
- Nurture everyone in a safe environment where all are celebrated and we care for our planet.
- Encourage each other to be the person God created us to be.

This vision shapes our Religious Education provision, ensuring that RE is taught with integrity, depth and joy, enabling all pupils to flourish.

2. Statement of Intent for Religious Education



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Religious Education at Waddington and West Bradford CE Primary School is of the highest standard, always striving for excellence and reflecting our distinctive Christian character. RE enables pupils to develop **religious literacy**, deep theological understanding, and respectful engagement with a range of religions and worldviews.

We follow the **Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Questful RE Syllabus** from EYFS to Year 6, supported by **Understanding Christianity**. This ensures that Christianity is taught as a living, diverse global faith and that pupils encounter other major world religions with respect, accuracy and curiosity.

3. The Distinctive Nature of RE in Our Church School

Religious Education makes a significant contribution to the Christian ethos, values and spiritual life of our school. It is taught in accordance with our Trust Deed and the expectations of the Church of England.

Although RE and Collective Worship complement each other, they are managed separately.

Christianity is the **majority religion studied**, forming **at least 50% of curriculum time** across EYFS-Y6. RE is allocated **a minimum of 5% of curriculum time**, aiming for **10%**, in line with the Church of England Statement of Entitlement.

4. Aims of Religious Education

In line with the Church of England Statement of Entitlement (2026), our RE curriculum aims to ensure pupils:

Know About and Understand

- Christianity as a diverse, global living faith, engaging critically with biblical text and theological ideas.
- A range of religions and worldviews, appreciating diversity, continuity and change.
- The concept of religion and its influence on culture, identity and society.

Express Ideas and Insights

- Engage with challenging questions of meaning, purpose and truth.
- Reflect theologically on their own beliefs, values and experiences.
- Develop thoughtful, informed dialogue with people of all faiths and none.



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Gain and Use Skills

- Handle biblical texts with confidence.
- Think critically, philosophically and ethically.
- Develop respect, empathy and curiosity.
- Reflect responsibly on their own spiritual and moral development.

5. Curriculum Structure: Questful RE (EYFS-Y6)

We use the **Questful RE scheme** across all year groups, ensuring:

- A clear progression of knowledge, concepts and skills.
- A balance of **learning about** and **learning from** religion.
- Engagement with theology, philosophy and human/social sciences.
- High-quality resources, including **Understanding Christianity**.
- Opportunities for pupils to explore foundational texts, rituals, practices and beliefs.
- Meaningful encounters with diverse Christian traditions and other world faiths.

6. Expected Outcomes: Religious Literacy

By the end of their education at our school, pupils will be able to:

- Give a **theologically informed** and thoughtful account of Christianity.
- Show an **informed and respectful attitude** to religions and worldviews.
- Engage in **meaningful dialogue** with those of all faiths and none.
- Reflect critically on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions.

7. Teaching and Learning

RE at Waddington and West Bradford CE Primary School enables pupils to:

- Talk openly and safely about their own beliefs without fear of ridicule.
- Make excellent progress in their understanding of Christianity.
- Understand and be encouraged in their own faith background.



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- Explore ultimate questions in a secure and respectful environment.
- Experience the breadth and variety of the Christian community.
- Become active citizens who serve their neighbour and bring hope to the world.

8. Contribution to SMSC, Christian Values and British Values

RE makes a significant contribution to pupils' **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development**, supporting:

- Respect for all faiths and worldviews.
- Understanding of diversity and community cohesion.
- Development of compassion, forgiveness, courage and hope.
- Appreciation of British values including democracy, tolerance and the rule of law.

9. Inclusion and SEND

RE is taught to all pupils, including those with SEND. Lessons are adapted to ensure:

- Full access to the curriculum.
- Appropriate challenge and support.
- Opportunities for all pupils to succeed and express their ideas.

10. Assessment and Record Keeping

Assessment follows the guidance of the **Questful RE Syllabus**. Teachers assess pupils' progress in:

- Knowledge and understanding
- Critical thinking
- Personal reflection
- Religious literacy

Records are maintained to support progression and inform future planning.

11. Resources

We use high-quality resources including:



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- Questful RE units
- Understanding Christianity
- Artefacts, texts, digital media and theological sources
- Visits and visitors from faith communities

12. Parental Right of Withdrawal

Parents may legally withdraw their children from Religious Education. Our policy follows the recommended wording from the Church of England and Methodist Church:

“The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England Foundation. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects this ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.”

The Headteacher will discuss any request for withdrawal with parents to explore concerns and seek an appropriate accommodation.

WHY RE MATTERS?

Quality RE has the potential, more than any other subject, to have the most powerful and lasting effect on the child's heart and mind. It is a subject that combines academic rigour with the development of the character and spirit of the child. RE provides opportunities for spiritual development and personal reflection. On a quest to discover more about religion and world views pupils will discover more about themselves. As RE develops children's knowledge and understanding of the nature of religion and belief, it provokes challenging questions about meaning and purpose, truth and values, identity and belonging. Pupils will experience, explore and encounter a wide range of creative and challenging multi-sensory activities that will help them to discover the answers to fundamental questions such as these: -

- Who am I and what does it mean to be me?
- In what ways do/can I relate to others?
- How/where can I encounter God?
- How can I make a positive contribution to the world in which I live?
- What values, attitudes, beliefs and behaviour are important to me?



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- What does it mean to have faith?
- Who/what influences and inspires me?

Through an open investigative enquiry approach the pupils will be given the sense of being on a quest of discovery. A key feature of the syllabus is the large number of questions included in each unit. The purpose of these questions is to give pupils opportunity to investigate, reflect, evaluate and make meaning. In doing so they will discover more about themselves, their relationships with others, their relationship with the world around them and their relationship with God. The questions set the route through the curriculum content.

The curriculum content is a balance of the three essential disciplines of quality RE, **Theology**, **Philosophy** and **Human Social Science**. This means pupils will look at concepts through a theological lens, exploring what people of faith believe. Alongside this pupils will explore questions and answers raised in relation to the lived reality and impact of religion and world views on people's lives. They will also think like philosophers, and be equipped with the skills that will enable them to make sense of life's experiences.

RE prepares children for citizenship in today's diverse society. It enables them to develop sensitivity to, and respect for others. Through authentic encounters with living faith communities, pupils will develop diversity dexterity and be equipped with the ability to hold an informed conversation about religious beliefs and practices.

The teaching of RE is both a huge responsibility and a privilege that must be recognised by those who teach it.