



Religious Education at Sacred Heart

Religious Education is a core subject at Sacred Heart and is at the centre of the school curriculum.

Through provision for classroom Religious Education and the Catholic Life of the school we aim to promote:

- Knowledge and understanding of Catholic faith, way of life and traditions
- A growing understanding of how faith affects behaviour and of the vital relationship between faith and life, life and faith
- Knowledge and love of Christ within the Sacraments
- The skills needed to engage in examination or reflection upon religious belief and practice
- The celebration of RE for our pupils through shared assemblies and liturgies
- A spiritual dimension to the lives of the pupils
- The teaching of Scripture
- An understanding of the cycle of the liturgical year and how this is reflected in the life and activities of the school
- Positive attitudes towards people of other faiths and other religious traditions in relation to God.

The outcome of Religious Education is religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills – appropriate to their age and capacity – to reflect spiritually, and think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.

Religious Education in Catholic Schools, a statement from the Catholic Bishops' Conference.

In line with Bishops' Conference recommendations, at Sacred Heart 10% of curriculum time is allocated to Religious Education. This does not include Collective Worship.

The school uses the Composite Model units written by Dr Margaret Carswell as the core curriculum for Religious Education. The units serve two purposes. They model the application of the contents of the Curriculum Directory and the Agreed Levels of Understanding and in addition serve as continuing the professional development of staff in these areas. The school uses the planning grids produced by the IREP (Islington Religious Education Project) team.

The units model:

- A Scripture process employing the principles described in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory (RECD)
- Content necessary for achievement of the Levels of Attainment up to and including AT 1(i), (ii) & (iii) Level 5
- Explicit links between the teaching of Religious Education and the RECD as required by the Diocesan Inspection Framework

The Church teaches that, while living out our Christian faith, we are called to listen in dialogue and be ready to learn from those of other faiths, many of whom may, in our multicultural society, be our neighbours. As Catholics we are called to be committed to respecting people of other faiths. At Sacred Heart children learn about other faith communities as part of the RE curriculum and two other religions are taught during year, Judaism and Islam; at least one week's teaching and learning time per year is given to each.