# RE and Collective Worship Policy

Approved by the Governing Body

Summer 2026

The legal requirement for Religious Education comes from the Education Reform Act 1988. Religious Education is unique in the school curriculum in that it is neither a core subject nor a foundation subject but the 1988 Education Act states that Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils.

We deliver RE in line with the Nottinghamshire Locally Agreed Syllabus 2026- 2031.

**Our curriculum intent** is to develop children with a strong sense of self and to foster respect and compassion for others. We encourage our children to begin to develop a curiosity and knowledge of different faiths, beliefs, values and people.

Through the teaching of R.E. we aim to;

- Stimulate and maintain pupils' curiosity, interest and enjoyment in RE.
- To help prepare children for life in a modern, diverse Britain.
- Help pupils acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and some of the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom and in our school community.
- 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, with reference to the teachings of some of the main religions represented in the United Kingdom.
- Develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold different views and beliefs, and towards living in a society of diverse religions.
- Promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

At Larkfields Infant School, Religious Education forms an integral part of the whole school curriculum and it has a special role to play in the education of our pupils. The population of our area has a high percentage of families who class themselves as following no religion as well families that are Christian, Hindu, Sikh and Muslim and we recognise that we live in a multi-faith and multicultural society. We encourage children to develop positive attitudes towards themselves and others, so that they can become useful members of the world community. Religious Education should promote respect, understanding and tolerance for those who adhere to other faiths or maintain a secular belief system.

Religious Education is presented in a balanced way as part of the integrated learning experience we offer the children. The subject encompasses moral education where children explore their relationships with their family, the school community and the world. Moral education seeks to promote integrity, regard for truth and reason, consideration of worthy values and standards, considerate behaviour, sharing common concerns and responsibilities, building self awareness and self esteem and the children's understanding of the relationships between themselves and others.

**ORGANISATION**

Religious Education is integrated into the life and work of our school. It is part of the curriculum framework and is included in the weekly timetable through assemblies and class teaching.

As well as helping to promote their spiritual, moral, cultural and mental development, the children gain understanding and knowledge of Christian and Jewish faiths and festivals and those of other faiths represented in our school community.

Religious Education is linked to our acts of worship. The whole year assembly plan includes personal and social education, incorporating material from the SEAL (Social Emotional Aspects of Learning) programme and stories about and from Christianity, Judaism and other faiths.

We teach British Values through R.E. lessons and assemblies

Each year group follows a 'Units of work in RE' formulated by Bronwen Surgey to ensure coverage and progression at FS2 and KS1. Children have the opportunity to visit local churches for the Harvest Festival, carol singing at Christmas as well as arranged visits in year groups.

A record of lessons and learning objectives is kept in the teachers' planning files.

Records of all daily assemblies are kept in the staffroom.

**FUND-RAISING**
As part of our aim to encourage children to recognise the needs and concerns of others, we organise fund-raising events to support different charities.

**LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY**
Harvest gifts are donated to our local community's food bank.

**THE ENVIRONMENT**
The children are encouraged to take an active part in helping to care for and protect our environment. We take every opportunity to help the children to appreciate nature and to be aware of the beauty of our world.

**VISITORS**
We greatly appreciate the people who visit our school to share with us their religions, cultures, traditions, expertise and experiences.

**MONITORING**
This is carried out through learning walks, planning scrutiny, discussions with staff, talking to children, looking through children's books.

**ASSESSMENT**
Currently children are assessed informally through the teacher's knowledge of each individual child.

**EVALUATION**
Monitoring of the planning, and teaching and learning of R.E. is carried out by the Values Team. Monitoring reports are discussed with the Headteacher at a staff meeting and at meetings of the Governing Body.

**THE Values Team**
- Takes the lead in policy development
- Provides practical advice and guidance on the implementation of the R.E. policy,
- Is responsible for the R.E. budget,
- Organises outdoor activities or visitors when appropriate,
- Is responsible for R.E. resources,
- Monitors coverage and progression in R.E. and informs the Headteacher of any concerns and successes,
- Informs governors about the teaching of R.E through monitoring reports.

**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**
Children with special educational needs have the same curricular entitlements as others. Activities are scaffolded to take account of their abilities.

**ABLE PUPILS**
Staff take into account the abilities of the able children and make appropriate and challenging provision for them.

**SAFETY**
Before undertaking out of school activities the staff use Risk Assessment procedures.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**
Religious Education is taught ensuring equal opportunities for all children.

## Assemblies and Collective Worship

Larkfields serves a predominantly, but not exclusively, white secular and Christian community. Included in our roll are those with strong religious beliefs and others from secular homes.

The school is mindful of the requirements of the 1988 Education Act and seeks to meet them. We have agreed the purpose of assemblies and the distinction between joining together for the promotion of moral, cultural and social attitudes and those activities which focus particularly on opportunities for spiritual development and worship.

We want our children to have the opportunity to learn about the beliefs represented within our community and beyond, to join together to increase knowledge and understanding and to reflect upon issues which are a shared experience for all people.

We seek to develop children's understanding of their own faith and the faiths of others through finding shared opportunities to consider:

- the purpose and meaning of their own lives,
- how we learn from the experiences of others,
- celebration of what is right and just,
- how people express their sense of wonder and awe in a variety of ways,
- what we may learn from traditional texts, Biblical teachings and texts from all faiths, especially Judaism.
- the expression of praise [through singing, music, quiet thought and prayer],

Themes for assemblies are taken from the Nottinghamshire Religious Education Agreed Syllabus, the Shap calendar for religious celebrations, "Education in Human Values" – themed manuals, SEAL scheme, topical events and special occasions. The half termly themes act as a planning document and record, thereby ensuring a balanced coverage of a wide variety of topics. The current document is displayed in the staffroom. Completed records are kept in the Assembly Themes file.

Whole school assemblies are held each morning. They are led by the headteacher on a Monday and Tuesday, staff rota Wednesday, Thursday's assembly concentrates on learning and singing hymns, and Friday is an Achievement Assembly. This gives the children a formal opportunity to have their achievements recognised and to appreciate the efforts and worth of others.

During assembly time children are given the opportunity to bring to the attention of others their awards for "out of school" activities, such as swimming or gymnastics. Birthdays are also celebrated.

Local clergy and invited visitors often take part in or lead the Collective Worship. We welcome these people and their contributions enrich our assemblies.

## Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assembly, collective worship times and RE lessons. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.