

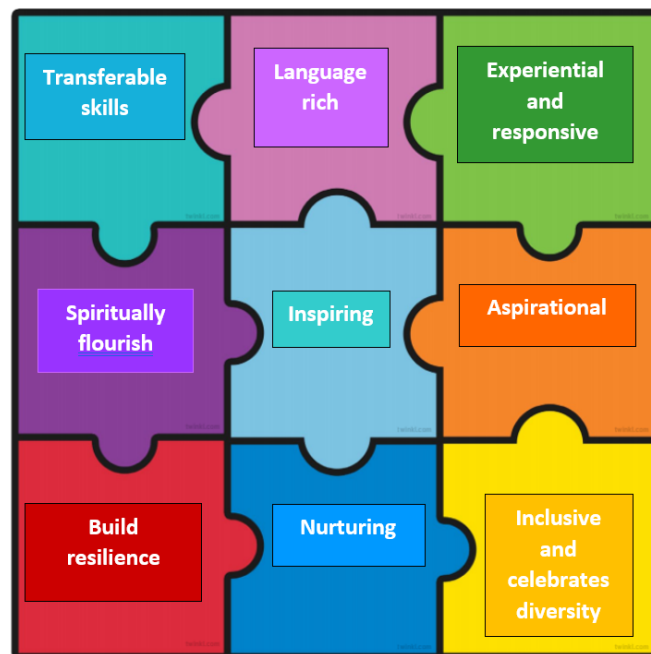
An Overview of the Religious Education Curriculum at St Michael's



The Lord says, 'For I know the plans I have for you plans to give you hope and a future.'
Jeremiah 29 verse 11

At St Michael's, we want all children to enjoy R.E and take the opportunity to reflect upon various religious faiths, developing a thirst for knowledge and wisdom. We want all children to understand the core importance of RE in our curriculum and the way it helps each one of us to value and respect the diverse cultures and faiths represented by our school and wider community.

The core concepts of Christianity and other major world faiths are taught in order to build respect and tolerance of various beliefs and encourage respectful dialogue between children and children, adults and children and adults and adults. We aim for all children to learn how to disagree well and talk about their own, and other, beliefs in a respectful and appropriate way. We want children to be able to reflect on their own experiences and develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life.



In particular, for Christianity, the RE curriculum enables children to know about and understand Christianity as a living world faith, by exploring core theological concepts. It enables children to develop knowledge and skills in making sense of biblical texts and understanding their impact in the lives of Christians. It develops children's abilities to connect, critically reflect upon, evaluate and apply their learning to their own growing understanding of religion and belief (particularly Christianity). And as such, enables all to:

- develop an ability to communicate and express and understand feelings,
- develop transferrable skills that can be used in the future to embrace new opportunities,
- experience opportunities that will support the development of cultural capital,
- develop positive healthy relationships and promote well-being,
- develop and grow resilience and the ability to problem-solve so that all are prepared to take their place in society.

The school follows the Understanding Christianity syllabus which ensures that as the children move up the school they learn about new key concepts and also go into previously learnt concepts in greater depth. Three strands run through all Understanding Christianity units: Making sense of the text, understanding the impact, and making connections. Making sense looks at the Bible and helps children to understand the text; understanding the impact looks at how the text impacts Christians' beliefs and actions; and making connections encourages children to discern possible connections between the concepts studied and their own lives.

All year groups also learn about other major world faiths following schemes of work provided by the diocese and R.E today.

The school has adapted the assessment frameworks of Undertaking Christianity and the other world faith units to embrace an inquiry-based learning approach. Each assessment grid for each unit has questions which drive the

learning forward and help develop understanding and reflective skills. All the questions contribute to the overarching key question for the unit.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through assessment for learning opportunities, work scrutiny, pupil voice feedback, data analysis and learning observations. Through these forms of continuous and robust assessment, the particular talents, gifts, interests and curiosity of individuals are identified and nurtured to ensure personal motivations and ambitions are encouraged and fostered.

We believe RE is impactful when children are excited and value the learning opportunities that they are given, reflecting on various religious beliefs and discerning what they may be able to learn from those beliefs.

When the children leave St Michael's at the end of Year 6, most children have a good understanding of the core concepts of the Christian faith and how they link together. Additionally, they have developed a good understanding of the core concepts of other major world faiths.

The children at St Michael's have respect for everyone regardless of beliefs and know how to voice disagreements in a respectful, appropriate way using sources to reinforce their opinions.