**Religious Education Policy**

**"Living the Gospel in the spirit of love and respect".**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

“For all children, Religious Education is a cross curricular subject.  It is a rigorous academic discipline and as such it is to be taught, developed and resourced with the same commitment as any other subject”.

**AIMS TO PROMOTE:**

* Knowledge and understanding of Catholic faith and life.
* Knowledge and understanding of the response of faith to the ultimate questions about human life, its origin and purpose.
* The skills required to engage in examination of and reflection upon Religious belief and practice.

**OBJECTIVES:**

* To develop knowledge and understanding of God and Jesus and the central belief which Catholics hold.
* To develop awareness and appreciation of Catholic beliefs and an understanding of its impact on personal and social behaviour.
* To encourage study, investigation and reflection by pupils.
* To develop appropriate skills.
* To foster appropriate attitudes.

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

**METHODOLOGY**

1. The RE programme ‘Come and See’ is of primary importance within school since its purpose is to unify and inspire every aspect of school life.  The programme has been implemented in all year groups, this provides a Catholic framework for the teacher to explore the themes with all children from reception to Y6.
2. The school will constantly review its practices and procedures to ensure the provision for religious education for all students who will all have equal rights, equal opportunities and equal access to a full and comprehensive education in RE.
3. Teaching and learning materials will be regularly monitored and up dated to ensure they are supportive of the scheme “Come and See”.
4. The RE Handbook, along with the “Come and See” syllabus ensures that the teaching of RE is relevant to the children’s development and understanding.  Incorporated into the programme are methods of evaluating assessing, recording and reporting.
5. Induction programme for new staff/non-Catholic staff is to provide support through its induction policy.
6. INSET will be provided through staff meetings, written guidelines, monitoring and evaluating, voluntary meetings and appropriate courses.
7. Our Mission Statement underpins teaching and learning throughout the school and are used to promote a Catholic ethos that values and respects all pupils.
8. Governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and pupils have the responsibility to develop personal and social skills within the school framework.
9. A Sacramental programme, ‘With You Always’ provides preparation for Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation involving the partnership of Parish, Parents and School, led by parish catechists.
10. All pupils will be encouraged and supported in their choice and participation in Liturgy provided by the school. Liturgies in school, both Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic, support and enhance the RE curriculum in school whilst reflecting the Church’s year.
11. To continue to develop parental knowledge of Religious Education and Collective worship in school, through parental meetings, termly newsletters.

**INCLUSION**

As a school, we ensure that all children and staff are treated fairly and equally. All children have equal rights to access all areas of the curriculum, regardless of race, gender and disability. Within this subject area, the SMT and all staff endeavour to provide the appropriate provision for this to occur. This policy follows the guidelines and practices that are stated and outlined in St. Wilfrid’s Equality Scheme.

**CONCLUSION**

To ensure there is a whole school commitment to the Religious Educational Policy and this will be encompassed in the School Improvement Plan.

Revised October 2017

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Headteacher Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_