



RE Policy

Sharow CE Primary School

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the Head teacher, RE subject leader and teaching staff. It was approved by governors on 14.11.25 and will be reviewed in Autumn 2028 (every three years)

Context

The context of RE at Sharow CE Primary School is that of a small rural primary school, serving children in the age range 3-11 years.

- We teach according to the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus.
- We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We welcome the diversity and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child. We are glad to have the active support of religious and non-religious members of our local community to support our teaching of RE.
- We recognize the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which the RE curriculum plays in some of these areas.

The Aims of RE at Sharow CE Primary school

RE at Sharow CE Primary School will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are that:

- the basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll;
- the content of RE shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;

- the RE which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for North Yorkshire.

Legal Requirements

Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, the aims in RE at Sharow CE Primary school are for pupils to:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom;
- develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
 - developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them;
 - responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience;
 - reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study;
- develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

Time Allocation.

It is recommended that RE is taught for a minimum of 36 hours per year at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two.

The time allocated for teaching RE at Sharow CE Primary School is:

EYFS 15 hours and planned within the continuous provision

KS1 39 hours

KS2 45 hours

RE curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship, even when the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not RE.

Scheme of Work

A detailed scheme of work is available for teachers and other interested people alongside this policy. It has been written in the light of the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus, adapting the NATRE scheme of work to our school.

EYFS Christianity

KS1 Christianity Judaism and Islam

Lower KS2 Christianity and Hinduism

Upper KS2 Christianity and Humanism

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Our policy is to aim to ensure the use in RE of art, drama, thinking skills, speaking and listening activities, visits, posters, photographs, videos, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies. We recognise the importance of teaching to the Agreed Syllabus in a creative, knowledge-rich, broad and balanced way.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources, to support our RE teaching, that we continue to develop. Resources are stored in the porch to the hall and should be returned after use.

Our school has invested in new books/religious artefacts/picture packs/posters. A regular audit of resources takes place by the RE subject leader in order to update our collection.

Visits and visitors

We are able to visit places of worship in the immediate vicinity of the school, where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in the teaching of RE. We aim to use this valuable resource for all classes.

Children will have the opportunity to make the following visits during their time at Sharow School:

Nursery and Reception	Place of Christian worship	Place of Christian worship
Years 1 and 2	Place of Muslim worship	Place of Jewish worship
Years 3 and 4	Place of Hindu worship	Local places of Christian worship
Years 5 and 6	Place of Jewish worship	Place of Muslim worship

The RE subject leader supports class teachers to organise these educational visits.

Matching Work to Pupils' Needs

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special needs and differentiation, applies to RE. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational ability.

Assessment

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in RE to parents, as required by law. The North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus provides descriptions of progress and attainment, which the school has agreed to use as a basis for reporting at the end of each key stage. We make specific, individual, accurate comments on each child's progress in RE in annual reports, based on regular monitoring of work and transfer this information to new schools when pupils leave us.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We intend that this policy should operate for the next three years, and then be fully reviewed by all staff and governors. The subject leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice.

Staff training and CPD

All staff have access to RE CPD in line with the subject leader's identified areas for development. This is either 'in house' or from an external provider. The RE subject leader also attends North Yorkshire network meetings.

Withdrawal

This was first granted when religious education was religious instruction and carried with it the connotation of induction into the Christian faith. RE has been very different from this for some time. It is inclusive and wide-ranging, exploring a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. However, in the UK, parents still have the right to withdraw their children from RE on the grounds that they wish to provide their own religious education. (School Standards and Framework Act 1998 S71 (3)). This will be the parents' responsibility.

We note the Human Right of parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff.

Teachers are asked to refer to the head teacher any questions from parents or carers about withdrawals.

Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RE should be made in writing to the head teacher and a record kept of them. However, it is good practice to talk to parents to ensure that they understand the aims and value of RE before honouring this right.