

INTENT

Why do we teach what we teach?

Religious Education (RE)

As we are a Catholic school, Religious Education is given priority and 10% of our curriculum time is spent on Religious Education. At St Mary's we believe that Religious Education and the Catholic life of our school is at the centre of all our learning.

Our aim is to provide quality Religious Education through "The Way the Truth and the Life" scheme of work. We want children to form a relationship with God through the teaching they receive and the experiences provided within our school and the wider community. Though the RE curriculum we hope to support children on their faith journey and our main aims are:

- To enable children to learn that Jesus wants us to think of others before ourselves.
- To develop a meaningful relationship with God as a loving and forgiving Father.
- To learn and be brought up in the teachings of the Catholic Faith.
- To find out about the life and teachings of Jesus and relate these teachings to our own lives.
- To recognise and value our own uniqueness.
- To respect and care for people around us.
- To be aware of and respect other religions and beliefs in the world

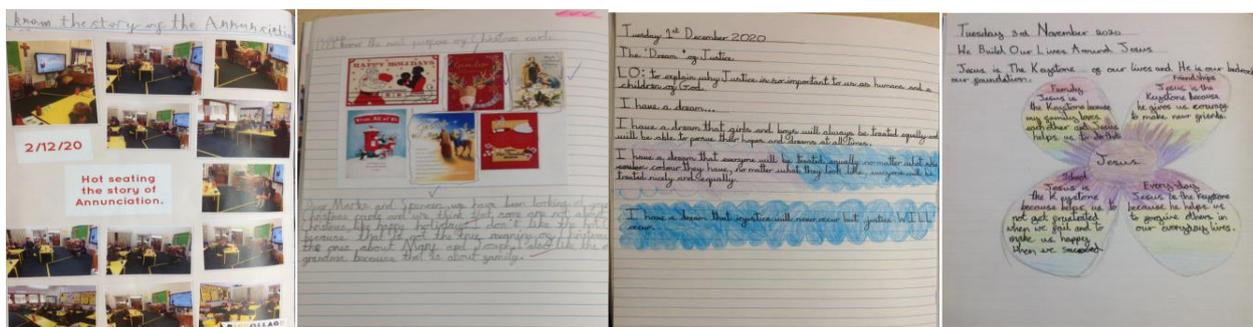
We focus on three areas which enable us to deliver quality RE with Christ at the heart of everything we do.

Catholic Life and Mission
Religious Education
Collective worship

IMPLEMENTATION

How do we teach what we teach?

All children at St Mary's follow "The Way the Truth and the Life" scheme of work. Each year group, from Reception to Year 6, follows six carefully planned themes and assessment is built into each theme. The children take great pride in their RE work and a creative approach which includes Drama, Art, Music and singing has been adopted to explore the themes within each year group.



RE in the Early Years

Children in the foundation stage also follow six themes within The Way, the Truth and the Life, however the Early Years curriculum is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. Children will learn through first-hand experiences to explore, observe, problem solve, predict, think critically, make decisions and talk about their experiences.



They will explore the themes in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects or artefacts. They will Listen to and talk about stories. They are introduced to religious words and use their senses to explore religion and beliefs. They reflect on their own feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.



Catholic Life and Mission

The Catholic life of St Mary's is rich in opportunities for the children to encounter and deepen their relationship with God. The children have experiences within school and the wider community. These experiences help to make our school special and enhance the lives of our children, staff and parents. They complement and enhance the RE curriculum. Key stage 1 and 2 pupils take part in wide variety of activities which have included Advent prayer trails, Lenten Activities provided by the local high school and CAFOD assemblies.



In Key Stage 2 children often take an active role in planning activities to enhance the catholic life of the school including Lenten prayer trails, Rosary club, Chapel Group, assemblies and visiting groups and speakers.



Religious Education

The school uses The Way, The Truth and The Life (WTL) which is a programme for children from EYFS up to students in Year 6. Each year group's resource contains scripture from the Old and New Testaments, explanations of the sacraments and the Mass. The programme has progression and continuity. An outline of the themes taught within each year group is below:

The Way, the Truth & the Life syllabus:

Early Years - Key Stage 1

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
FS	F1 God's World	F2 God's family	F3 Getting to know Jesus	F4 Sorrow and joy	F5 New Life	F6 Church
Year 1	KS1.1 God's Great Plan	KS 1.2 Mary Mother of God	KS1.3 Families & Celebrations	KS1.4 Following Jesus	KS1.5 Resurrection	KS1.6 Miracles
Year 2	KS12.1 Chosen People	KS2.2 Mysteries	KS2.3 The Good News	KS2.4 The Mass	KS2.5 Eastertide	KS2.6 Birth of the Church

Key Stage 2

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3	3.1 The Christian	3.2 Mary our Mother	3.3 Called to change	3.4 Eucharist	3.5 Celebrating	3.6 being a Christian
Year 4	4.1 The Bible	4.2 Trust in God	4.3 Jesus the Teacher	4.4 Jesus the saviour	4.5 The Mission of the Church	4.6 belonging to the Church
Year 5	5.1 Gifts from God	5.2 Commandments	5.3 Inspirational People	5.4 Reconciliation	5.5 Life in the Risen Christ	5.6 People of Other Faiths
Year 6	6.1 The Kingdom of God	6.2 Justice	6.3 Jesus the Bread of Life	6.4 Jesus the Son of God	6.5 The Work of the Apostles	6.6 called to Serve

Collective Worship

Although collective worship is in addition to the 10% teaching time designated for RE. It is an integral part of our catholic teaching. Children and teachers plan and deliver class reflections, assemblies and school masses. These are often related to the current theme within The Way the Truth and the Life or a topical issue. The children participate with reverence and respect and all classrooms have a focal point that reflects the liturgical year. The school's wider community are invited to share in these experiences and parents are always eager to join the children for class assemblies and masses.





INCLUSION

All children receive Quality First Teaching in RE. Any child with identified SEND may have work different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. The creative nature of the RE curriculum allows all children to access a wide variety of activities and experiences.

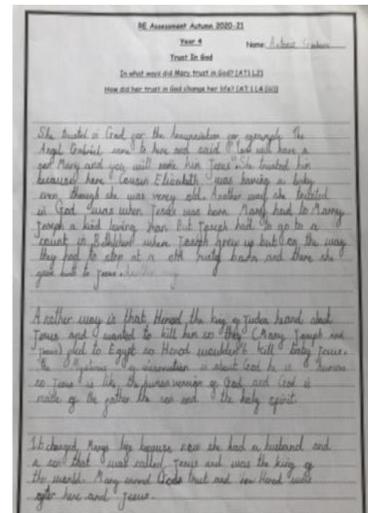
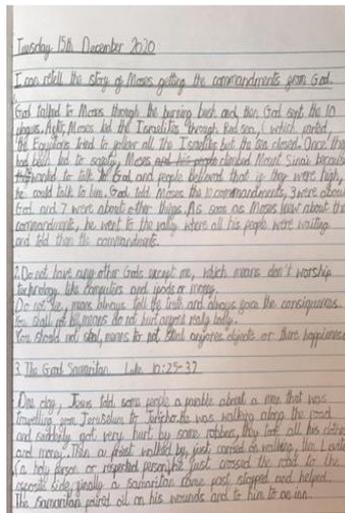
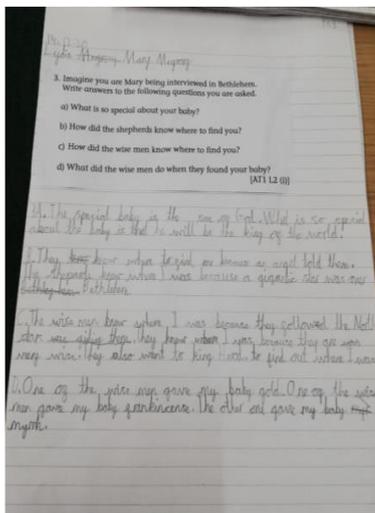
IMPACT

How do we measure what we teach?

Assessment

RE in our school is progressive and planned to meet the needs of all children. Assessments are carried out regularly. Each theme within The Way and the Truth and The Life is assessed and these are then moderated within year groups.

The standard achieved for each topic is recorded and then an overall judgement is given at the end of the year.



Continuing Professional Development

Professional development for staff is always ongoing through staff meetings or Team meetings delivered by the RE Lead. The RE lead attends 3 coordinator days organised by the Diocese and the Lead attends cluster group meetings with other RE coordinators. Newly qualified teachers attend a 1-day course on the teaching of RE in a catholic school. All staff are regularly updated with any changes.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education - RSHE

All teaching flows from appreciation that life is a gift from God and will be presented within the context of loving relationships, fully reflecting the teaching of the Church. The school is moving from 'A Journey in Love' programme (which the school previously consulted parents on) to the use of the Ten Ten programme for RSHE. Ten Ten's programme for Catholic primary schools, Life to the Full, teaches Relationships Education and Health Education within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic Church. By using this programme, we hope that our pupils, staff, parents and wider community will not only have high-quality RHE but also a rich foundation for growth, personal development and happy, fulfilled relationships.