Chidham Parochial Primary School
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

School Vision:
At Chidham, everyone is known, loved and belongs. We nurture each child to flourish and achieve, giving them the best start in life. Following Jesus, we make a positive difference in our ever-changing world.
John 15 v 12 " Love each other as I have loved you"

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INTRODUCTION

Religious education is an opportunity for children to explore and consider a range of religions. It is legal entitlement for every child and forms part of the basic curriculum as set down in the 1998 Education Act. Its place in the curriculum is an acknowledgement of the fact that religious beliefs and practices play an important part in the lives of many people worldwide, and have done so throughout history. An understanding of religion can help children develop a better appreciation of themselves, the people around them and the world in which they live. All Voluntary Controlled schools are required to adopt the Locally Agreed RE syllabus, produced by their local SACRE, to determine the RE curriculum. This document is available on the school website.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The school follows the aims and objectives set out in the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus.
At Chidham Parochial Primary School we aim to:

- Explore shared human experiences through developing and fostering a caring attitude and a sense of wonder towards creation; exploring gospel values and religious questions about life; relating religious beliefs to a pupil's own experiences of life and to communicate these to others.
- Develop children's own beliefs, values and attitudes through exploration of their own religious beliefs and insights whilst developing attitudes of care, concern, respect and tolerance towards others.
- Know the place and significance of Christianity and other religions in the contemporary world by the acquisition of general knowledge of the central beliefs and key figures of Christianity and other world faiths. These are explained in more detail as part of the curriculum framework on the school website.

Our children experience Christianity as a living faith and experience a Christian ethos through the attitudes, relationships and values of the school and through taking part in a daily act of prayer and worship.

CURRICULUM

As a Church School, we regard RE as a core subject and as such it is planned to ensure the highest quality of learning experiences for the children and to cover the requirements of the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus.
The School gives 5% of curriculum time to religious education in line with the recommendations of the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus. It is anticipated that the actual amount of time given each week may vary.
At the heart of RE at Chidham Parochial Primary School is the teaching of Christianity, rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We use the **Understanding Christianity** materials to form the basis of the RE planning about Christianity. As an inclusive community, we encourage learning about other religions and world views; fostering respect for them. Appropriate curriculum time is given to teaching about other world faiths in accordance with the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus using the **Emmanuel Project** materials.

Curriculum Organisation

Religious Education is best taught through exciting, interesting, active, varied learning experiences. These typically include group discussion, drama/role-play, hands-on experiences, visits and visitors. Religious education is mainly taught through weekly lessons.

ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING

Assessment

Teachers use a variety of means of assessing children's work in line with the whole school assessment policy and the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus. Units will start with a 'Big Question' where children record their initial thoughts, ideas and understanding. They are invited to ask questions at this point. As the unit continues, children will return to the 'Big Question' as their knowledge and thinking deepens. Formative assessment will be used within every lesson to regularly assess children's understanding and inform further learning. At the end of the unit, children will return to the 'Big Question' and record their responses in a separate colour in order to

demonstrate impact of teaching.

Recording

A floor book will be used in Year R and 1.
Individual books will be used from Years 2 to 6 and will remain with the child so their RE journey at Chidham can be evidenced and celebrated over time.

Reporting

A range of assessments throughout the year will be used to inform teachers' reporting in the end of year report.

LEADERSHIP

The day-to-day support for religious education is provided by the RE leader who is responsible for:

- Supporting colleagues;
- Signposting colleagues to relevant training;
- Maintaining and securing resources in the school;
- Carrying out learning look-ins;
- Attending relevant in-service courses to keep up to date on religious education particularly from the Diocese;
- produce an action plan setting out the priorities for religious education;
- conducting an annual review and Action Plan for RE

WITHDRAWAL

When parents request that their child be withdrawn from religious education they are interviewed by the Headteacher to clarify the beliefs and practices that they wish their child to be excluded from.