



Hope Academy

A joint Catholic & Church of England Academy

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Mission Statement:

“A community of learners of all ages from the local area committed to mutual service where all can flourish, be their best and work for the common good to the glory of God and his creation.”

APPROVED			
REVIEW DATE			
SIGNED PRINCIPAL		PRINT NAME	
SIGNED CHAIR OF GOVERNORS		PRINT NAME	

Introduction

Set in the broader context of the development of the whole person, our Religious Education and Collective Worship policy reflects the Academy's aims to provide a caring community in which young people can learn to respect themselves and others and take responsibility for their own actions.

Hope Academy is a joint Catholic and Church of England Academy. Its Christian values serve to complement the love of learning that is central to the Academy's culture for achievement. Fundamental to our Academy's Christian values and practice is the principle of enabling pupils to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of the potential influence of life experiences, beliefs, values and faith traditions on individuals, communities, societies and culture. It also aims to enhance the pupils own spiritual, moral, cultural and social (SMSC) development by:

- Developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and how religious teachings can relate to them.
- Responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions, and to their own understanding and experience.; considering and explaining what might be learned from the religions they study in the light of their own beliefs and experiences.
- Reflecting on their own beliefs, values, perceptions and experiences in the light of their study of religion.
- Developing positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs that are different from their own.

Guidelines

The aim of Collective Worship is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship and respond.
- Reflect on Christian values and on their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues

The Principal is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging collective worship after consulting with the Governing Body. Daily collective worship is of a broadly Christian character and takes into account the family background and abilities of our pupils.

Collective worship, whether in assembly or tutor time, will:

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils;
- Include a variety of elements at different times;
- Involve pupils.

The separate aim of Religious Education is to enable pupils to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of:

- Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain and their associated beliefs, experiences and practices.
- Some of the influence of life experiences, beliefs, values and faith traditions on individuals, communities, societies and culture.

Religious Education should help pupils to:

- Develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on

- individuals, communities, societies and cultures;
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of religion and develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about Christianity and other principal religions represented in the UK.
- Enhance their spiritual, moral, cultural and social development.
- Develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions.

Cross Curricular Links

There have always been links between religion and the arts and consequently R.E. fits naturally with subjects such as Art, Music, Physical Education, Drama and Dance. Links with these subjects will be further developed as the subject develops through the first year of the Academy.

Special Education Needs

We believe that all pupils at the Academy should have equal access to R.E. so that they may have the opportunity to progress and demonstrate achievement irrespective of ability of special educational needs. Where special educational needs are identified, teachers will endeavor to provide such pupils with appropriate opportunities at each key stage, in line with the requirements of the local authority agreed syllabus.

Where pupils have special needs in R.E. includes: pupils who have special needs across the curriculum and who also have special needs in R.E.; pupils who are more able and talented across the curriculum, including R.E.; pupils who live in an environment which is entirely secular or strongly religious, where values and beliefs may be at odds with the wider culture in which they live; pupils who themselves have a personal faith commitment.

Equal Opportunities and Differentiation

R.E. makes a valuable contribution to the education of all pupils. As an essential part of the curriculum, it should provide a relevant and worthwhile learning experience for all pupils. Learning in R.E. should enable pupils to:

- Respect self and be sensitive to the needs of others;
- Challenge inequalities and discrimination associated with race, religion, culture gender, ability or socio-economic group.

At Hope Academy all pupils will follow a programme of study in Religious Education, Religious Studies or Ethics.

Key Stage 3 pupils will undertake a programme jointly approved and monitored by the Anglican Diocese and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese. The schemes of work will be developed specifically for use in the Academy.

It is intended that all pupils at Key Stage 4 will follow a GCSE course in Religious Studies. The two papers taken will be the Edexcel 'Religion and Society based on a Study of Islam' and 'Religion and Society based on a Study of Christianity'. The first paper will be studies in Year 10 and the second largely in Year 11.

In Key Stage 3 each year's programme of study will focus on Christianity but will also explore the beliefs and practices of a world religion: Hinduism in Year 7, Judaism in Year 8 and Islam in Year 9. This will provide a link to the GCSE course followed in Year 10.

At Key Stage 5 there will be the opportunity to take AS and A2 courses in Religion and Philosophy and all students will have lessons in Ethics based on the National Open Colleges Network Programmes of Study.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The governors will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented through the Academy.