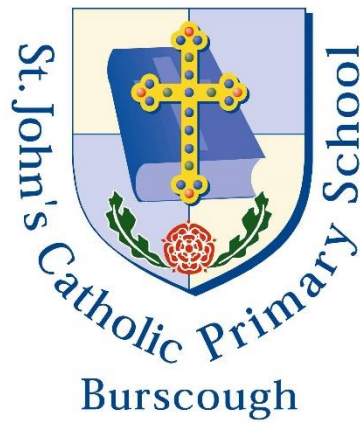




Religious Education Directory



An overview for parents

New Religious Education Directory - 'To know you more clearly'.

At St John's, for several years we have followed the Come and See programme of Religious Education, recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool as our scheme of work. Following much work and reflection, the Archdiocese and the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, have decided that our schools are to move to using the Religious Education Directory. This resource is very much based on the Scriptures as it is there, in the authoritative teaching of the Church, that we meet God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word. Over time, as begun in 2023, the curriculum will move from Come and See to the Religious Education Directory.

From September 2024, to fulfil our aims and objectives we are using the 'To Know You More Clearly' programme from the new Religious Education Directory prescribed by the Archdiocese of Liverpool. This is being rolled out this year across the whole school

Rationale of Religious Education

The primary purpose of Catholic Religious Education is to come to know and understand God's revelation which is fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. This revelation is known through the scriptures and the tradition of the Church.

Religious Education is the '**core of the core curriculum**' in a Catholic school and is planned, taught, assessed and monitored with the same rigour as other core curriculum subjects. It is at the heart of our whole curriculum and is taught for 10% curriculum time within a broad and balanced curriculum. It informs every aspect of the curriculum.

The Aims of Religious Education are:

1. To engage in a systematic study of the mystery of God, of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, the teachings of the Church, the central beliefs Catholics hold, the basis for them and the relationship between faith and life;
2. To enable pupils continually to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively;
3. To present an authentic vision of the Church's moral and social teaching to provide pupils with a sure guide for living and the tools to critically engage with contemporary culture and society;
4. To give pupils an understanding of the religions and worldviews present in the world today and the skills to engage in respectful and fruitful dialogue with those whose worldviews differ from their own;
5. To develop the critical faculties of pupils so to bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture;
6. To stimulate pupils' imagination and provoke a desire for personal meaning as revealed in the truth of the Catholic faith;
7. To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through religious education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum

The outcome of Religious Education:

'The outcome of Religious Education is religiously literate and consciously engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills - appropriate to their age and capacity - to reflect spiritually and think ethically and theologically, and who recognise the demands of religious commitment in everyday life. ' (RED, To know you more clearly')

Branches and Lenses

There are six branches in 'To know You More Clearly' – one per half term. The branches are:

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Creation and Covenant	Prophecy and Promise	Galilee to Jerusalem	Desert to Garden	To the ends of the Earth	Dialogue and Encounter

Each branch is taught through the knowledge lenses: Hear, Believe, Celebrate, Live

1. Hear (focuses on the word of God which we hear, the Word made flesh)
2. Believe (focuses on the content of the church's own profession of faith, what she believes, professes, defines and teaches.)
3. Celebrate (deals with the liturgy in which the Church celebrates the mystery of Christ)
4. Live (focuses on the impact of faith on how Christians live – the dignity of the human person, freedom, conscience and virtue; law, grace and sin, Catholic Social Teaching)
5. Dialogue (other religions and world views – Church's teaching on the relationship between Catholicism and other Christian traditions, between Catholicism and Judaism, Catholicism and other religions)
6. Encounter (Discrete study of other faiths)

The following list gives an indication of the ways in which these skills develop as pupils move through the different age-phases of the curriculum content

Understand
In this way of knowing, pupils will be able to understand deeply the meaning of sacred texts, religious beliefs, sacred rites, and the lives of individuals and communities who are shaped by these texts, beliefs, and rites.
Discern
In this way of knowing, pupils will be able to judge wisely in response to different interpretations of the meaning, significance, and implications of texts, beliefs, rites, and ways of life so that they can arrive at justified conclusions about what is true, what is good, and what is beautiful.
Respond
In this way of knowing, pupils reflect personally and with integrity on what they have learned and consider the implications for action these may have for their own lives and the world in which they live.

The coverage of RE in each Year group

Early Years Foundation Stage

The RED curriculum provides Religious Education within the Early Years areas of learning as a bespoke foundation for secure grounding for Key Stage 1 and beyond. The RED reveals the Good News and making the little stories of children meet the big stories told by the disciples. Wonder at God's gifts inevitably flows into reflection and enjoyment of the gifts, into prayers of praise and thanksgiving. Through the curriculum, children learn about the story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through sacred texts, parables, sensory experiences, and the symbols and gestures of the sacraments. The curriculum shares the importance of everyone's gift and talents in producing, writing, using, and learning. In responding to this encounter, children learn that dignity, loving friendships, responsibility, care for our world and its people, and peace are values they meet in Jesus, who calls everyone to live a life of love. All children can share the Gospel values and insights learned through Christian education.

Year One

The overarching theme of this year is revelation, how do people know about God?

Pupils would not be expected to know the term revelation, but they will explore the different ways in which revelation is experienced, beginning with revelation through Creation, then moving on to revelation in the incarnation of Jesus. Again, though pupils may not use the term incarnation, teachers can make connections between the different branches to ensure that pupils make the link that Jesus is another way people meet God. Pupils will then understand a simple account of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection before encountering the language and imagery of the revelation of God in the Holy Spirit.

Year Two

The overarching theme of this year is baptism.

Baptism is the meeting point where people are reborn to a new life in Christ and become part of the Christian community. In the story of Noah, Creation is reborn from the waters of the flood. Pupils will encounter John the Baptist and journey through St Luke's gospel as they come to know the signs in the gospel that Jesus is the Messiah spoken of by the prophets. They will consider how the power of the Holy Spirit transforms the lives of people in the writings of St Luke, for example, Mary, Elizabeth, and Paul, and consider how a life in Jesus calls people to be good neighbours. Pupils will also begin to think about good and bad choices (sin) and why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is needed.

Year Three

The overarching theme of this year is celebrating the Eucharist.

In the first branch the story of Creation, humanity, made in the image and likeness of God, is given the task of caring for the Earth, stewardship. At Mass, Catholics give thanks for the fruits of the Earth at the Offertory. In branches two and three, pupils will learn about what happens at Mass, making links with scripture, for example, the feeding of the five thousand and Jesus' last supper. Pupils will also encounter different literary forms as they study parables and study the Gospel of St Matthew and learn about the signs of God's kingdom in this gospel. They will be introduced to the mystery of Trinity. They will learn about how Jewish families celebrate the Passover today and some simple facts about Islam.

Year Four

Through this year the pupils will learn about people whose lives have been transformed by faith and hope in God.

In the first branch pupils will study Abraham and consider how he changed through acting on his faith and entered into a covenantal relationship with God. Pupils will explore aspects of the story of Elijah whose story shows the importance of faith and hope in God even in desperate times. Pupils will then make links between Elijah and John the Baptist.. Pupils will explore more about the type of messiah Jesus is and what it means to live a life in Christ. Through learning about the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love, they will encounter the belief that good deeds flow out of a love of God, people do not do good things and earn God's love. They will revisit the lives of St Peter and St Paul with a focus on the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love and learn about the place of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the communion of saints.

Year Five

Through this year the pupils will reflect on the significance of the Old Testament as part of Christian understanding of the revelation of Jesus.

In the first two branches, pupils will explore Moses and David. Moses is the lawgiver and the one who leads the people of Israel out of slavery. David is the great king who is a shepherd to his people. Pupils should have opportunities to understand how to read the Bible, recognising stories meant to the people at the time of telling and what they mean to us now. Pupils will look at the Ten Commandments and at Jesus' summary of the Law and how this speaks to us today. They will learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation where people choose to be anointed as a disciple of Christ and seek to follow his teachings and reflect on the last things. They will spend some time thinking about the Bible itself. They will also develop a deeper understanding of Sacred Scripture in the Jewish religion.

Year Six

In this year, pupils will focus their gospel study on St John.

They will also look at the second account of Creation, understanding what is meant by the 'Fall' and be able to make connections with Jesus as the new Adam in St John's gospel. Pupils will look at women in the Old Testament and see Mary's place in salvation history as she is presented in the gospel of St John. They will look at St John's account of Jesus through the seven miraculous signs and they will learn about the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. They will hear the account of Jesus' Passion as recounted in St John's gospel and reflect on this as a source of creative inspiration. The account of Mary meeting the resurrected Jesus in the garden will connect with the story of Eden and help pupils understand something of the narrative sequence of salvation history. At the end of the year, they will consider Catholic social teaching as part of the call to dialogue with the culture of the time.