CREETING ST MARY
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

RE POLICY

Updated: October 2026

Through God, all things are possible.
Matthew 19:26 and Mark 9:23 (The Bible).

Provision

All schools in England are obliged by statute to provide Religious Education (RE). It is seen to be a key element for a child's education, a contributor to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development, and a support to the understanding of British Values. RE is a curriculum area; it is not the same as Collective Worship or our school's ethos.

Our school is a Church of England school and the provision of RE must be in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school (i.e. the practices and principles of the Church of England). The C of E 'Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education 2019' underpins our provision and informs this policy.

RE lies at the heart of our curriculum at Creeting St Mary Primary School. It has an equal standing with all of the core subjects and is reflected on within our assemblies. We believe that RE should be of the highest standard, always striving for excellence, and that it should reflect our school's distinctive Christian character. RE is the responsibility of school governors.

At Creeting St Mary Primary School, we provide a RE curriculum which is rich and varied and which enables learners to acquire both a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith, and to learn about a broad range of other faiths and worldviews. We recognise that our pupils have a variety of worldviews so we welcome and celebrate this diversity.

The content, teaching, learning and attainment of RE in a church school are inspected as part of the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) framework. RE is a high priority for the leadership team and for the governing body and, as such, is well-resourced. All teaching staff are encouraged and expected to attend courses to extend their expertise. Pupils are encouraged to talk confidently, listen to others talk about their beliefs and to take their knowledge and enthusiasm with them into their future lives.

Aims

The broad aims of RE are set out in the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement (accessible here) and the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus for RE (accessible here). The syllabus has recently been updated and we have updated our teaching accordingly.

Leadership and Management

RE is the responsibility of our school governors; a named governor monitors the subject. We have a RE subject leader who is responsible for the development of the Creeting St Mary CEVAP School RE Policy subject, supporting staff with delivery and monitoring pupil progress and perceptions. The governor and subject leader meet at least once a year to discuss the subject. Progress in RE is discussed at least annually at staff and governing body meetings.

Staffing

All teaching staff are offered appropriate and ongoing professional development in RE. This helps to enable pupils to experience high quality experiences within their RE learning.

The Curriculum

All children are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum and steps are made to ensure that a range of teaching styles, groupings and resources allow for all children to make progress in RE. Based on teaching about Christianity, rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ, RE underpins the Christian character of our school whilst also encouraging learning about other religions and fostering respect for different world views RE teaching across the school, follows The Emmanuel Project plans, a scheme of work for EYFS to Y6 which follows an enquiry-based approach looking at the key beliefs and concepts which are important in different faiths. This scheme matches

the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus. As a church school, 50% of RE teaching focuses on Christianity. We seek to enrich our RE curriculum with creative and varied teaching methods and a range of visits and/or visitors.

Assessment

Assessment is an important tool by which teachers know that children are making good progress, enabling them to plan future work. Assessment is based on pupils' depth of knowledge and understanding related to the key questions addressed in the curriculum. Standards in RE should be equal to those of other curriculum subjects. We aim to ensure that assessment tasks offer proper levels of challenge and assess children's knowledge and understanding of RE, rather than English. As a result, we use the suggested assessment ideas provided by The Emmanuel Project. Class teachers also assess the work of their pupils in a variety of ways, and pupils are also encouraged to self-assess their own sense of progress and evaluate their own knowledge and understanding.

Monitoring, Progress and Standards

The RE subject leader, alongside the Headteacher and Governor for RE, are responsible for monitoring the provision and standards of RE. The Headteacher will enable the RE subject leader to monitor provisions and standards on a regular cycle. The RE subject leader will monitor provision and standards in RE through observation, looking at work, talking to children and reviewing the curriculum with staff. The subject leader may be required to report to the Governing Body and contribute to the school's self-evaluation in readiness for SIAMS. The Governor for RE assists in monitoring the subject, for example, by helping to conduct pupil perceptions and learning walks.

The Withdrawal Clause

In all schools, parents have the right in law to withdraw their child/ren from the RE provided. This right does not extend to other areas of the curriculum where spontaneous questions about religious or religious matters may arise. Parents may arrange for their child to receive alternative RE off-site. Please do contact the school office in the first instance. If required, we will clarify with parent/s the educational nature of RE and discuss the management of the request for withdrawal, noting whether it is a complete or partial withdrawal. If required, we will also provide supervision for a withdrawn child to remain on school premises, but not provide additional teaching or materials which would incur a cost.

Links with the Diocese, Cathedral and parish Church

Our school is linked to the Ecclesiastical Parish of Creeting St Mary. All children have the opportunity to visit the church at least termly. The school fosters an interactive relationship with the local church, growing connections with the Cathedral and an awareness of some Diocesan events.