



Coppull Parish Church of England Primary School

RE Policy September 2025

Our Vision

Curious - Courageous - Compassionate

Created: September 2025

Governor Approved: October 2025

Next Review due: September 2026

Religious Education in a Church School should be of the highest standard, always striving for excellence, reflecting the school's distinctive Christian character.

Our School Vision

We strive to nurture a loving family ethos in which everyone can flourish and develop their God given talents. Our aim is to inspire children to be compassionate, strong and courageous, understanding that everyone matters in God's world.

Let our school and our pupils be a light to the world (Matthew 5:16).

Motto: Compassionate, Courageous, Curious.

Bible sources:

'Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing'. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be discouraged. For I will be with you wherever you go.' (Joshua 1:9)

'Your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.' (Matthew 5:16)

Curriculum Intent

At Coppull Parish Church of England Primary School, we strive for everyone in our community to have the opportunity to develop to their full potential, within the context of a Christian learning environment. Through Religious Education, pupils develop their knowledge of Christianity and other world faiths, and their understanding and awareness of the beliefs, values and traditions of other individuals, societies, communities and cultures. We encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences.

Together, following Jesus' teaching, we aim to develop:

- ☐ Attitudes of mutual respect and understanding of other races, religions and ways of life.
- ☐ Strong links and partnerships between home, school and Parish.
- ☐ A caring, friendly ethos based on Christian values.
- ☐ An atmosphere of learning, prayer and reflection to promote spiritual awareness within our community.

In Voluntary Aided Schools the management of Religious Education is a distinctive role of the Governors and Head Teacher. RE must be provided in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and in accordance with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England. The Governing Body as a whole is responsible for determining the nature of Religious Education provided in its school.

Implementation of the RE Syllabus

At Coppull Parish, we have adopted the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus for RE which fulfils all legal requirements and the RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office 2016. Although Religious Education and Collective Worship naturally compliment and enrich one another, they are managed separately.

Religious Education in a Church School lies at the very heart of the curriculum. At Coppull Parish, we follow the guidelines set out in the RE statement of Entitlement:

“In Church of England schools the students and their families can expect a religious education curriculum that is rich and varied, enabling learners to acquire a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith. Church schools should provide a wide range of opportunities for learners to understand and to make links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of the range of faiths and world views studied. Church schools should use some form of enquiry approach that engages with, for example biblical text, and helps develop religious and theological literacy. Links with the Christian values of the school and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are intrinsic to the RE curriculum and should have a significant impact on learners.” RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

*“**Christianity should be the majority study** in RE in every school. In Church schools that should be clearly adhered to. KS 1 – 3 at least 2/3rds of RE curriculum is to be Christianity. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, however organised, should be committed to the delivery of RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but must be no less than 5%.”*

RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

The aims of Religious Education **in Church Schools** are:

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know and understand about other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, enabling pupils to express ideas and insights.
- To contribute to the development of pupils’ own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

Appropriate to age at the end of their education in Church schools the expectation is that all pupils are religiously literate and, as a minimum, pupils are able to:

- Give a theologically informed and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- Show an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning.
- Engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.

· Reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions. RE Statement of Entitlement: The Church of England Education Office 2016

This can be expressed in more detail and distinctively as:

We learn about

- God who reveals the truth about himself and humanity through creation, the giving of the law, his action in history and through the prophets;
- God who reveals himself ultimately in Jesus his Son, living among us and dying and rising for us;
- God who reveals himself in his Spirit working in the living faith of the Church experienced

through scripture, tradition and reason.

We learn from

- an empathetic response to the Christian faith and a critical engagement with it; ·
- responding personally to the stories and teachings of Jesus Christ;
- examples of Christian living which give priority to the values of unconditional love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, compassion and faith.

Religious Education in Church Schools should also help pupils to:

- learn *about* other faiths, their beliefs, traditions and practices and *from* them through encounter and dialogue;
- recognise and respect those of all faiths in their search for God;
- recognise areas of common belief and practice between different faiths;
- enrich and expand their understanding of truth while remaining faithful to their own tradition;
- enrich their own faith through examples of holy living in other traditions.

Religious Education in Church Schools should help pupils to:

- reflect theologically and explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society;
- reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief;
- see how the truth of Christianity is relevant today;
- understand the challenge faced by Christians in today's pluralist and post-modern society; ·
- develop the skills to handle the Bible text;
- recognise that faith is based on commitment to a particular way of understanding God and the world;
- begin to develop their own commitments, beliefs and values;
- develop a sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious;
- experience the breadth and variety of the Christian community;
- engage in thoughtful dialogue with other faiths and traditions;
- become active citizens, serving their neighbour;
- find a reason for hope in a troubled world;
- understand how religious faith can sustain believers in difficult circumstances and in the face of opposition.;

Religious Education in Church Schools should enable:

- pupils and teachers to talk openly and freely about their own personal beliefs and practice without fear of ridicule;
- pupils to make excellent and appropriate progress in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity;

- pupils from Christian families to talk openly about their beliefs and values in lessons and to grow in their faith;
- pupils from other faith backgrounds to understand and be encouraged in their faith;
- pupils with no religious background to be given an insight into what it means to be a person of faith;
- pupils of all backgrounds to have a safe place to explore the ultimate questions and challenges of life in today's society.

RE and the wider curriculum

RE provides many opportunities for links with other curriculum areas, particularly English, History, Geography and the creative arts, as they learn about the historical timeline of the Bible; the work of the disciples and missionaries, who spread Christianity around the world; they also study Christian art and express their ideas about religion creatively through art and drama. In addition, RE has a strong link with our PSHE curriculum and SMSC, as it contributes to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, by providing opportunities to explore and reflect on their own, and other people's experiences; develop their own feelings of self-worth and independence; explore what is right and wrong, fair and unfair and develop their awareness of awe, wonder and mystery in life. Their study of the Bible also teaches them about Christian Values and how God and Jesus want Christians to lead their lives. During our RE lessons, children will have the opportunity to reflect on the British Values of justice, respect and tolerance, through their studies of Christianity and other World Faiths.

Assessment and Record Keeping

Assessment will be continuous and based on teacher observation and marking to inform future planning, as well as recording pupil progress. At the end of each term, the teacher will assess one of the Units taught in that term and evaluate individuals and the class as a whole, against the Syllabus assessment criteria. This information is then collated by the RE leader, who monitors attainment and progress throughout the school. Summative assessments will be shared with parents in the End of Year report. This is in accordance with guidance given in the BDBE RE Syllabus.

Special Educational Needs Provision

RE for children with special needs, will be met through differentiation by the class teacher. This is done at the discretion of the teacher and is dependent upon the unit of work/activity being undertaken. At Coppull Parish, we believe that RE is an area of the curriculum where every children can make a valuable and unique contribution.

Resources

At Coppull Parish, we have resources for teaching Christianity, Islam and Judaism, which are kept centrally in the Library. Resources include, books, information packs, photographs, artefacts, DVDs and posters. The Co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring we have the resources to teach the BBDE syllabus and replaces them when necessary.

The right to withdraw from Religious Education lessons

Parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education. 'The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.'

If such a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher will explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Religious Education or Worship are objected to.

Parents may request the governing board to provide Religious Education for their children according to the locally Agreed Syllabus. This can only be requested when parents cannot, with reasonable convenience, arrange for their children to attend another school where Religious Education is provided according to the locally Agreed Syllabus. The governing board **should** make provision unless the circumstances make it unreasonable to do so.

Should the governing board be unable to make such arrangements for Religious Education to be delivered according to the Agreed Syllabus, the responsibility for doing so then falls on the Local Authority. The Local Authority may decide that such a request for separate Religious Education is unreasonable and the parental request then fails.

RE co-ordinator: Mrs F Bird (Headteacher)

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