



St Paschal Baylon
Catholic Primary School

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Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

Religious Education Policy

St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School
RE Policy
'Following in the footsteps of Christ'

Background Information

St Paschal Baylon Primary School has approximately 390 boys and girls, aged 4-11 on roll who come from the residential areas of Bowring Park and Childwall. Within each year group there are identified pupils with special educational needs.

Aims

The aim of Religious Education at St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School is the comprehensive systematic study of the Mystery of God, of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, the teaching of the Church, the central beliefs that Catholics hold, the basis for them and the relationship between faith and life, in a manner which encourages investigation and reflection by pupils, develops the appropriate skills and attitudes and promotes free, informed and full responses to God's call in every day life.

"For all children religious education is a proper subject in its own right in the school's curriculum. It is a rigorous academic discipline, and as such it is to be taught developed and resourced with the same commitment as any other subject. For those already engaged on the journey of faith, religious education will be catechesis, and for some children religious education will be evangelisation, the first opportunity to hear the Good News of the Gospel." (RECD pg. 10)

The Religious Education Programme

To fulfil these aims we use the *Come and See* programme as recommended by Liverpool Archdiocese.

Overview of Content

Central to the *Come and See* programme are three basic questions and the three Christian beliefs that are the Church's response in faith.

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Where do I come from? | Life – Creation |
| Who am I? | Dignity – Incarnation |
| Why am I here? | Purpose – Redemption |

The basic question or belief for each term is explored through three kinds of themes.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| Community of Faith | ↔ | Church |
| Celebration in Ritual | ↔ | Sacraments |
| Way of Life | ↔ | Christian living |

The Community of Faith ↔ Church themes are:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|---|------------------|
| Autumn: | Family | ↔ | Domestic Church |
| Spring: | Community | ↔ | Local Church |
| Summer: | World | ↔ | Universal Church |

The Celebration in Ritual ↔ Sacramental themes are:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|---|------------------------|
| Autumn: | Belonging | ↔ | Baptism / Confirmation |
| Spring: | Relating | ↔ | Eucharist |
| Summer: | Inter-Relating | ↔ | Reconciliation |

The Way of Life ↔ Christian Living themes are:

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---|--------------------|
| Autumn: | Loving | ↔ | Advent / Christmas |
| Spring: | Giving | ↔ | Lent / Easter |
| Summer: | Serving | ↔ | Pentecost |

When studying the themes, each year group has a different topic which they focus on. For example, when looking at the *Domestic Church* in the Autumn term, all year groups study 'Family' but they do so through different topics, such as: Myself, Families, Beginnings, Homes, People, Ourselves and Loving.

The Process

Search - Explore

This is the introduction to the topic where the children's life experience is explored, the question(s) it raises are wondered at, shared, investigated and their significance reflected upon.

The teacher helps the children to begin to look at and focus on an aspect of life experience – concerning themselves, their relationships, and their world – in order that they acknowledge and become aware of it.

The teacher then enables the children to explore this aspect of life experience.

Next, the teacher leads the children to deeper understanding, clearer vision, the discovery of significance and value, and enables them to grasp the richer meaning of this life experience.

This part of the process will take one week to complete.

Reveal

This is the heart of the programme where knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith is revealed through the Word, in Scripture, Tradition, doctrine, prayers, rites and Christian living.

The teacher introduces the children to the Christian understanding of the mystery of God and human life as expressed in the person, life and gospel of Jesus Christ.

Through six different 'learning focuses' the children will hear the Word of God through Scripture and will be asked to respond to the teachings of this scripture.

This part of the process will take two weeks to complete.

Respond

This is where the learning is assimilated, celebrated and responded to in daily life.

The teacher enables the children to recall and review the work done in the topic. The children will then have the opportunity to celebrate in worship all that has been taught and learned.

Next, the teacher helps the children to hold on to, and make their own, what they have understood of their own experience and of the experience of the Church community.

This part of the process will take one week to complete.

Planning

Long Term Planning

This is the responsibility of the RE Leader – following the *Come and See* programme.

Medium Term Planning

This is the responsibility of the RE Leader – following the *Come and See* programme.

Short Term Planning

This is the responsibility of the class teacher – following the *Come and See* programme.

Assessment

The Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools states that the outcome of Catholic Religious Education “is religiously literate young people who have the *knowledge, skills and understanding* appropriate to their age and capacity to think spiritually, ethically and theologically, and are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.” (pg. 10)

In *Come and See*, assessment is therefore related to the concepts, skills and attitudes to be developed and to the learning outcomes for each topic.

In our school this involves:

Informal Assessments

- General observation of children engaged in classroom tasks
- Contribution made to class display
- Review, end of task activity
- Marking of written tasks

At the end of each topic, a note is kept of those children achieving expectations and those working towards and above expectations.

Formal Assessment

Early Years Foundation Stage:

Annotated work from each topic including photographic evidence in RE books and on Tapestry Online Journal.

Links with Early Goals (See *Age-Related Standards (3-19) in Religious Education*).

Years 1-6:

Formal Assessment using the new *Age-Related Standards (3-19) in Religious Education* on a 3 year cycle so that each theme is assessed formally twice throughout Key Stage 1 and 2.

Assessment may be undertaken during the 'Respond' section which allows the children to celebrate all that they have learnt throughout the topic.

An activity, recommended by the RE Team (taken from the 'Reveal' stage of the process), is given to teachers before they introduce the topic to be used as a formal assessment. This enables children to show how they have met the learning outcome.

Formal Assessment Timetable 2019/20

The first theme to be formally assessed using the *Come and See* programme will be the Church theme: 'Domestic Church - Family'.

During the Spring Term, the Sacramental Theme: 'Eucharist - Relating' will be formally assessed.

During the Summer Term, the formally assessed topic will be the Christian Living theme: 'Pentecost - Serving'.

Recording

The results of formal assessment will be marked against the new Age-Related Standards (3-19) in Religious Education and end of term judgements against these will be inputted on the school progress tracker, OTrack.

Reporting

Achievements in RE are reported to parents at Parent Consultation Meetings (November/February), in the end of year reports and when parents are invited to celebrate children's learning in RE through year group assemblies and Collective Worships.

Policy Formation and Consultation Period

This policy was written in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Liverpool Archdiocese and is reviewed on an annual basis.

Signed: E. Martin

Position: RE Leader

Signed: K. Nolan

Position: Chair of Governors