

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the Head teacher, R&W (Religious and Worldviews) subject leader and teaching staff. It was approved by governors on September 2024 and will be reviewed in July 2027.

Context

- The context of R&W at Blanford Mere Primary is that of a medium-sized primary school, serving children in the age range 5 – 11 years old.
- We teach according to the Dudley Agreed RE (Religious Education) Syllabus with the assistance of Kapow! Primary.
- We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We welcome the diversity and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child. We are glad to have the active support of religious and non-religious members of our local community to support our teaching of R&W.
- We recognize the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which the R&W curriculum plays in some of these areas.

The Aims of R&W at Blanford Mere Primary School:

R&W at Blanford Mere Primary School will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are that:

- the basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll;
- the content of R&W shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;
- the R&W which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Dudley;
- the legal requirements can be found [here](#).

Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, the aims in RE at Blanford Mere Primary school are for pupils to:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom;
- develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
 - developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them;
 - responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience;
 - reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study;
- develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

Time Allocation.

It is recommended that RE is taught for a minimum of 36 hours per year at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two. The minimum (or equivalent to) time allocated for teaching R&W at Blanford Mere Primary School is:

- EYFS planned within the EYFS Framework
- KSI – 1 hour per week
- KS2 – 1.25 hours per week

R&W curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship, even when the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not RE.


Scheme of Work

A detailed scheme of work is available for teachers at Blanford Mere Primary School and other interested people alongside this policy. It has been written in the light of the Dudley Agreed Syllabus with the support of Kapow! Primary.

Blanford Mere's curriculum is as below:

Blanford Mere Primary School

Whole School Overview 2024/2025

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1	How did the world begin?	What do some people believe God looks like?	What is God's job?	Why should we care for the world?	How do we know that new babies are special?	Why should we care for others?
Year 2	Why do we need to give thanks?	What do candles mean to people?	How do we know some people have a special connection to God?	What is a prophet?	How do some people talk to God?	Where do some people talk to God?
Year 3/4 a	What makes us human?	Why is water symbolic?	What makes some texts sacred?	Who was Jesus really?	Why is fire used ceremonially?	Why is the bible the best-selling book of all time?
Year 3/4 b	Does the language of scripture matter?	Where do our morals come from?	Are all religions equal?	What happens if we do wrong?	Just how important are our beliefs?	Does the language of scripture matter?
Year 5/6 a	Why do people have to stand up for what they believe?	Why do Abrahamic religions look different around the world?	What happens when we die? (part 1)	What place does religion have in our world today?	What happens when we die? (Part 2)	Who should get to be in charge?
Year 5/6 b	Why doesn't Christianity always look the same?	Why are some places in the world significant to believers?	Why do Dharmic religions look different around the world?	Why is there suffering? (Part 1)	Why is it better to be there in person?	Why is there suffering? (Part 2)

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Our policy is to aim to ensure the use in R&W of art, drama, thinking skills, speaking and listening activities, visits, posters, photographs, videos, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies. Cross-curricular work is

encouraged, in line with whole school policy on teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of teaching to the Agreed Syllabus in a creative, knowledge-rich, broad and balanced way.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources, to support our R&W teaching, that we continue to develop. Resources are stored in Blanford Mere's OneDrive, and in Year group specific resource boxes. If borrowed, these should be returned after use. Our staff are given protected time to familiarize themselves with any new materials (PPA). A regular audit of resources takes place by the R&W subject leader in order to update our collection. We encourage school families to donate appropriate artefacts.

Visits and visitors

We are able to visit places of worship in the immediate vicinity of the school, where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in the teaching of RE. We aim to use this valuable resource for all classes. All pupils have the opportunity to visit a place of worship and participate in the visit of a representative to their R&W class learning.

A general overview of proposed visit are as follows:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3/4a	Year 3/4b	Year 5/6a	Year 5/6b
Church	Cathedral	Gurdwara	Buddhist Vihara	Mosque / Islamic Exhibition Centre	Madir	Synagogue

NB: This is not a concrete plan. This can be changed to suit needs of children or cohort circumstances.

The R&W subject leader supports class teachers to organise these educational visits. Guidance on visits and visitors can be found [here](#).

Matching Work to Pupils' Needs

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special needs and differentiation, applies to R&W. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational ability.

Assessment

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in R&W to parents, as required by law. The Dudley Agreed Syllabus provides descriptions of progress and attainment, which the school has agreed to use as a basis for reporting at the end of each key stage. We make specific, individual, accurate judgements on each child in R&W in annual reports, based on regular monitoring of work and transfer this information to new schools when pupils leave us. Assessment can be in the form of:

- Regular recall
- AfL / Questioning
- Children's work
- Pupil voice
- End of unit quizzes

A folder of examples of pupils' work, which is designed to help teachers make judgments about attainment and progress, is available in [RE Work Examples](#). The subject leader will co-ordinate the addition of pupils' work that provide clear evidence of progress and attainment. However, these are only examples and there does not need to be more examples that are useful. This approach to exemplifying standards aims to clarify our understanding of what makes for quality RE.



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Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We intend that this policy should operate for the next 3 years, and then be fully reviewed by all staff and governors. To ensure that our R&W policy is in practice, and to help teachers keep track of their own work and needs for support or training, teaching staff are asked to make a copy of the planning for R&W accessible each half term. The subject leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice. We maintain a 'self-evaluation' of our R&W work in preparation for any scrutiny.

Self-Evaluation

The subject leader for RE will assess and review the subject's strengths and areas for development in either termly or half-termly intervals.

Staff training and CPD

All staff have access to RE CPD in line with the subject leader's identified areas for development. This is either 'in house' or from an external provider. The R&W subject leader also attends local network meetings.

Transition

We ensure that transition across key stages (including to KS3) includes a simple statement of the religions and topics that pupils have covered alongside their progress and achievement.

Withdrawal

We note the Human Right of parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff. Teachers are asked to refer to the head teacher any questions from parents about withdrawals. Requests for full or partial withdrawal from R&W should be made in writing to the head teacher and a record kept of them.

Guidance on withdrawal can be found [here](#).

Date: December 2024
Date for review: December 2027