**The aims of religious education are to help children:**

**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 that 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. (To Know you More Cleary 2023)

• Develop an understanding of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences.

• Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions, cultures and values in modern Britain.

• Develop an appreciation and respect of other religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences and diversity in Britain today.

• Be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to their learning linking to the values of Catholic Social Teaching and British Values.

• Develop investigative and research skills and to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues.

**Outcome of religious education**

The outcome of excellent 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.(To Know you More Cleary 2023)

**Curriculum Intent**

At St Mary’s, we develop the children’s spiritual and moral knowledge and understanding of the major world.

We enable all are pupils to develop secure knowledge about Christianity and other world religions. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding.

At school, we follow the new RED (To Know You More Cleary) Our specific planning approach is taken from this scheme. This distinguishes RE from other subjects and so reminds us that RE is unique and special within our curriculum. (Please refer to the RED curriculum mapping for topics taught.)

Throughout a range of topics, children are exposed to the mystery of God, the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Church, the central beliefs that Catholics hold, the basis for them and the relationship between faith and life. These are explicitly taught in RE, though we develop and encourage them through our Catholic Life and Collective Worship.

**Religious Education** is taught within its own right using ‘To Know You More Clearly’. 10% of curriculum time is devoted to Religious Education excluding assembly and Acts of Worship time, as advised by the Bishops of England and Wales.

We aim to create an environment where acceptance, respect, mutual trust and love are evident and to foster a sense of self-worth. We endeavour to help each child to think, appreciate, question and work for what is good as they grow in faith.

We teach our children to develop a desire to search for meaning through the experiences they have.

We guide our pupils to question and grow in faith as they develop their spiritual journey.

**Other Faiths**

As part of our RE curriculum, we teach and learn about other faiths throughout the year. This includes Sikhism, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam. We teach the children that Jesus showed respect for those within and outside his own faith, and because we learn from Jesus, we must also do the same. We celebrate other faiths not only through our teaching but also through inviting parents/carers and external providers into assemblies to talk about their faith and culture.

# NB: In some personalised circumstances pupils may not be part of some RE lessons.