



## Subject: Religious Education

### Rationale

Our Catholic school exists to create and sustain an environment which has Christ and His teachings at its very heart. It is based on the belief that everything of worth comes from God and by working in partnership with priests, parishioners and our families, we can establish a community of love, peace and harmony between all in a climate of mutual trust and openness.

We aim to be a Christian family, celebrating our Catholic identity as a lived reality from the inside out, sustained by gospel witness – the impact of which pervades our entire community. We serve with love and strive for excellence...

### Characteristics of Well-rounded Christians

#### (Curriculum Aims)

The Archdiocesan Religious Education guidance and 'Come and See' programme aims to ensure that all pupils:

- deepen their knowledge and understanding of key theological ideas and their application to life
- apply and use their knowledge and skills in cross-curricular studies to deepen their understanding of religious truths and think creatively
- engage with their own and others' beliefs and values to help develop good attitudes and dispositions so that they are instilled with a love of learning and a desire to pursue learning
- engage with difficult questions of meaning and purpose that everyone has to face which will enable them to think critically about their own questions of meaning and purpose
- have a sense of self-worth through their experience of belonging to a caring community and an awareness of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life

### Curriculum Intent

Within R.E., we engage with the deepest questions of life and find reasons for the hope which is within them (1 Peter 3:15). It is our core subject which is central to the life of our Catholic School.

We engage in the systematic study of the mystery of God, discovering this through exploration of the Bible, particularly through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Our intention for classroom R.E. is primarily educational. It is achieved by:

- clarity of succinct religious learning objectives
- key content
- by appropriate methodologies
- rigour
- richness of resources
- achievement of identified outcomes
- accurate methods of assessment

### Curriculum Implementation

As a Catholic School, we follow the Archdiocesan scheme of work 'Come and See'. The programme has been developed to respond to the needs of children today in their faith journey, to enable them to grow in their religious literacy and understanding in a way that is coherent with current educational principles. It is designed to support teachers in their delivery of religious education. It integrates the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the *Catholic Levels of Attainment* and the new *Religious Education Curriculum Directory*.

We spend 10% of our curriculum timetable delivering R.E. to our children. It is taught discretely and developmentally.

### Curriculum Impact

'The outcome of excellent religious education is religiously literate and 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 are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.'

*Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools 2012*

This is true to our children in our school.

There is marked progression through the different stages of education within R.E. Children investigate and reflect within their learning journey and have appropriate skills and attitudes which allow for a free, informed response to God's call in everyday life. Children also transfer their skills to other areas of the curriculum, and are able to analyse, reflect and have a critical appreciation of sources.