

King Ina Church of England Academy



‘Let your Light Shine’ – Matthew V5: 14-16

Religious Education Policy

Agreed: November 2025

Review: November 2027

Introduction

At King Ina C of E Academy Religious Education (RE) is a statutory requirement for all pupils, as outlined in the Education Act 1996 and supported by Department for Education guidance, which emphasises RE’s role in promoting spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.

The Church of England’s Statement of Entitlement outlines the aims and expectations for Religious Education in Church of England Schools and guides our school’s approach. It begins by stating, “Religious Education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10) It will help to educate for dignity and respect, encouraging all to live well together.”

The Church of England’s Vision for Education; Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good, continues, “Such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person.”

Our School's Vision

Within our secure Christian environment, our vision is to develop healthy, happy, motivated learners who aspire to achieve their full potential and who look to the future with confidence.

This is supported by the message in the Book of Matthew:

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

"Let Your Light Shine!"

Our School's Values

Friendship
Perseverance
Service
Respect
Trust
Compassion

Intent – Curriculum

At King Ina Church of England Academy, we intend to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world religions. Children will:

- Be given opportunities to reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding.
- Learn from religions as well as about religions.
- Develop the necessary skills to reflect on personal experiences, to develop their individual identities, personal beliefs and values and to develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences.
- Develop an understanding of religious traditions
- Learn to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today, helping them to have respect for other peoples' views and to enjoy celebrating the diversity in our school and in society.

Curriculum balance and time

Teaching will take place for between an hour and an hour and a quarter each week for key stage 2, and an hour a week for key stage 1.

Implementation – Teaching and Learning

Our teaching follows the locally agreed syllabus Awareness, Mystery and Value (AMV), in accordance with Somerset Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (Somerset SACRE).

Teaching of religious education will take place every week and will include direct teaching, class discussions and individual reflections, which will be recorded in a variety of ways.

We offer opportunities for children to develop their skills and knowledge in each AMV unit and we encourage progression so that there is increasing challenge for the children as they move through the school years. Teachers make use of the AMV guidance and lesson plans and may also write their own plans to deliver lessons.

EYFS

Pupils work on the units of learning: Special Me, Special Times, Special Places and Special Stories.

Key Stage 1

Pupils learn about Christianity and Judaism including units such as 'What do Christians believe about Jesus?' and 'What do Jewish people believe about God and the Covenant?'

Key Stage 2

Pupils learn about Christianity and other world religions including Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. Units include: What do Christians believe about Agape? What do Hindu people believe about Dharma, Deity and Atman?

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

We provide opportunities for spiritual development through RE teaching. Children consider and respond to questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life. We help them to recognise the difference between right and wrong through the study of moral and ethical questions. We enhance their social development by helping them to build a sense of identity in a multicultural society. Children explore issues of religious faith and values and develop their knowledge and understanding of the cultural context of their own lives.

Impact

Recording

Children in Years 1 to 6 will work in RE books and Reception classes produce a floor book.

Assessment

We assess children's work in religious education through formative assessment. Judgements are made at the end of each lesson as to whether children have achieved the learning objective and are indicated on an assessment sheet in books, at the start of each unit.

Reporting

We use the above information as a basis for assessing the progress of each child, for reporting to parents within the annual written report and for passing information on to the next teacher at the end of the year.

Monitoring

The subject leader is responsible for the overall curriculum planning, including the 3 Is statements and the progression maps which can be found on the school website. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of R.E, being informed about current

developments in the subject and carrying out monitoring activities such as learning walks and work scrutiny. Monitoring findings of which are shared with the head teacher and the staff and any actions required are discussed for future training and support.

Arrangements for the Withdrawal of Pupils from Religious Education and Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education and School Collective Worship. They are invited to discuss this with the Headteacher first and should provide written notice to the school governors, should they wish their child/ren not to take part. There will always be opportunity for parents to discuss the contents of the R.E. curriculum with their class teacher, R.E. leader or Headteacher, should they have concerns.