



Religious Education Rationale 2023-24

At Cheadle Catholic Infant School, we believe that the teaching of Religious Education is of paramount importance to guide and support the child within a Catholic environment, in line with the mission statement of our school. Although Religious Education is taught daily in our school, it is not just confined to the RE lesson, it permeates the whole life of the school as we strive to proclaim and live out the Gospel values. Our aim at Cheadle Catholic Infant School is to create a happy caring environment where children are helped to grow in faith and moral responsibility, knowing that they are a unique person endowed with the gifts of the spirit.

At Cheadle Catholic Infant School children are given the opportunity to explore and develop their understanding of their faith through the teachings of Jesus.

In accordance with diocesan guidelines, the main scheme of work is 'The Way, The Truth and The Life'. Each half term, the children explore a different topic and range of Key Learning Objectives (see below).

Throughout the year, children also have the opportunity to develop their understanding of Catholic Social Teaching ('CAFOD' workshops and assemblies, 'Mission Together' etc), RSE is linked directly to the Catholic faith through the use of the, 'Life to the Full' resources in EYFS and Year 2 and 'The Vine & Branches' resources in Year 1. The Catholic liturgical year forms the basis of Prayer and Liturgy, supplemented by the 'TenTen' Collective Worship resources. All children explore a range of world faiths during their time in the Infant School.

Children in Year 2 prepare for and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Nursery Key Learning Objectives

God's Wonderful World

- Learn about plants and fruits in God's world. Reflect on what God made for us.
- Learn about animals in God's world. Reflect on the animals God made for us.
- Know that God made us. Be aware that we are unique.
- Understand that God loves each one of us always. Become aware that God never stops loving us.

My Family

- Know God gives us a family to look after us. Reflect on what our family does for us.
- Know that the angel Gabriel came to visit Mary. Reflect on the angel's good news for Mary.
- Know that Jesus came to earth as a little baby. Think of how important this is for us.
- Know that Christmas is the birthday of Jesus. Be aware that this is a very special celebration

The Holy Family

- Know that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple. Reflect on what happened.
- Know about the loss and finding of Jesus. Reflect on the feelings of Mary and Joseph.
- Know that Jesus loves little children. Think of ways to be kind and helpful to others.
- Know about the parable of the Good Samaritan. Try to be a Good Samaritan to others.

Sorrow and Joy

- Know that Jesus chose friends to help him. Be aware that Jesus wants us to be good friends.
- Know how Jesus helped people and gives us people to help us. Reflect on ways we can help others.
- Know that Jesus teaches us forgiveness and love. Be aware that Jesus will help us to forgive and to say sorry.
- Know that Jesus died on Good Friday but that was not the end. Experience that Easter is a very happy time.

New Life

- Begin to understand that we celebrate Easter because Jesus
- rose from the dead. Be aware that at Easter we celebrate Jesus is with us.
- Begin to understand that Jesus gives a special gift of joy and peace. Think of how we can give this peace and joy to others.
- Begin to understand that Jesus is alive and will always be
- with us. Be aware that we can always speak to Jesus.
- Know that Mary is the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. Think of ways to show our love for Mary.

Our Church Family

- Know we all belong to God's family. Reflect on what this means for us. Know that we belong to our Church family. Be aware that our Church family prays together.
- Know that we have a parish church. Experience a visit to the local church.
- Know why Sunday is a special day for the Church family. Reflect on ways we can pray when we go to church.

Reception Key Learning Objectives

God's World

- Know that God made the world. Think about all the things God has made for us.
- Know that God has asked us to care for the world. Think of ways in which we can help to do this.
- Know that God loves and cares for each one of us. Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know that God made each one of us different and special. Reflect on how we can thank God for everything.

God's Family

- Know that the angel Gabriel asked Mary to be the mother of God's son. Reflect on Mary's reply to the angel.
- Know that in Advent we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Think of ways we can prepare.
- Know the story of the birth of Jesus. Reflect on how important this is for us.
- Know that shepherds were the first to hear about the birth of Jesus. Reflect on the good news they received.

Getting to know Jesus

- Know about the loss and finding of Jesus in the Temple. Reflect on the meaning of this event for Mary and Joseph.
- Know that Jesus chose friends to help him. Be aware that Jesus wants us to help him.
- Know that Jesus has great love for each one of us. Think of ways to show our love for Jesus.
- Know that Jesus healed the man at the Pool of Bethesda. Reflect on how Jesus can help us.

Sorrow and Joy

- Understand that we should try to be kind and not hurt others.
- Reflect on ways to be kind and helpful to others.
- Learn to say sorry when we hurt someone and ask Jesus to help us to do this. Reflect on ways to do this.
- Know that Jesus forgave those who hurt him. Be aware that we can forgive other people when they hurt us.

- Know that Jesus died on Good Friday but that was not the end.
- Be aware that Good Friday is a sad and happy day for us.

New Life

- Begin to understand that we celebrate Easter because Jesus rose from the dead.
- Be aware that at Easter we celebrate Jesus is with us.
- Begin to understand that Jesus gives a special gift of joy and peace. Think of how we can give this peace and joy to others.
- Know the story of Jesus going back to his Father in heaven. Be aware that Jesus is still with us.
- Know that Mary is the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. Think of ways to show our love for Mary.

Our Church Family

- Know that we belong to our Church family. Be aware that we can all belong to this family.
- Know that the members of the Church are called Christians. Be aware we are all welcome in the church.
- Know why Sunday is a special day for the Church family. Reflect on ways we can pray when we go to church.
- Know about the Sacrament of Baptism. Be aware that we are all special friends of Jesus

Year 1 Key Learning Objectives

Creation & Covenant.

Understand:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

- Recognise that the story of Creation in Genesis 1:1-4,24-26, is an ancient, prayerful, poetic reflection on God's world and retell this story in any form.
- Recognise in an age-appropriate way that the Church teaches that all that is comes from God, our Father, who made Heaven and Earth.
- Recognise that though people cannot see God, they can sense his presence through the awe and wonder experienced in the beauty and order of Creation.
- Recognise that the Church teaches that God gave human beings the responsibility for taking care of the world and its people and in doing this, we show love for God and each other.
- Know that Pope Francis wrote a letter, called 'Laudato Si', about the gift of Creation and the importance of taking care of the world as it is everyone's home.
- Recognise that prayer is a way of drawing closer to God.

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think creatively and critically about what they have studied, for example, through:

- Talking about how God's gift of Creation is expressed through the scriptures and diverse creative and artistic expressions, e.g., through art, music, or poetry and talk about their responses.
- Talking about why caring for God's world matters for them and their local community.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by:

- Reflecting on what the words of the Our Father and the opening words of the Creed say to them.
- Reflecting on different ways to pray.
- Listening to stories from different communities and their experiences about how they care for the world.
- Talking about how they can care for God's world.

Prophecy & Promise**Understand:**

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

- Recognise that, for Christians, the Christmas story reveals God's love by sending Jesus his Son.
- Be introduced to the Bible as a special book and encounter the stories and accounts of how people came to know God and the Good News of Jesus in the gospels.
- Sequence the accounts from the Annunciation through to the visit of the shepherds.
- Know that in the Annunciation God called Mary and she said 'Yes' to his call and why this makes Mary important for Christians.
- Match the first words of the Hail Mary with the words of the Angel Gabriel.
- Recognise that angels bring God's message and are a sign that Jesus is the Son of God.

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think creatively and critically about what they have studied, for example, through:

- Talking about why the shepherds saw angels when Jesus was born.
- Thinking about why the words of the angels are in the 'Hail Mary' and the beginning of the 'Gloria'.
- Exploring artistic representations of the nativity story from around the world.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by:

- Hearing and beginning to join in with the words of the Hail Mary.
- Singing or saying the first words of the Gloria.
- Talking about how Christians in their local community celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Galilee to Jerusalem**Understand:**

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will:

- Recognise that, for Christians, the Christmas story reveals God's love by sending Jesus his Son.
- Be introduced to the Bible as a special book and encounter the stories and accounts of how people came to know God and the Good News of Jesus in the gospels.
- Sequence the accounts from the Annunciation through to the visit of the shepherds.
- Know that in the Annunciation God called Mary and she said 'Yes' to his call and why this makes Mary important for Christians.
- Match the first words of the Hail Mary with the words of the Angel Gabriel.
- Recognise that angels bring God's message and are a sign that Jesus is the Son of God.

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think creatively and critically about what they have studied.

- Talking about why the shepherds saw angels when Jesus was born.
- Thinking about why the words of the angels are in the 'Hail Mary' and the beginning of the 'Gloria'.
- Exploring artistic representations of the nativity story from around the world.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by:

- Hearing and beginning to join in with the words of the Hail Mary.
- Singing or saying the first words of the Gloria.
- Talking about how Christians in their local community celebrate the birth of Jesus.

From Desert to Garden**Understand**

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

- Make simple connections between Jesus' time in the desert (Lk 4:1-13) and Christians praying and fasting for forty days in Lent.
- Recognise that Jesus shows the importance of giving to others, making simple connections with the story of the widow's mite (Lk 21:1-6) and the season of Lent.
- Correctly sequence the events of the last week of Jesus' life.
- Recognise that angels bring God's message and are a sign the Jesus is the Son of God, truly alive.
- Recognise that the Church teaches that Jesus suffered, died, and rose again.
- Recognise simple connections between the use of ashes and the Christian belief that Lent is an opportunity for a new start.

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think critically and creatively about what they have studied, for example, through:

- Asking 'I wonder' questions about the story of the last week of Jesus' life.
- Experiencing and reflecting on music or art that shows how Christian communities in another part of the world celebrate Lent and the last week of Jesus' life.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by

- Recognising that fasting in Lent is giving something up to help others and CAFOD Family Fast Day is a way of doing this.
- Considering what they might give up and choose to do to help others.
- Reflecting on what they know about Jesus including the events of the last week of Jesus' life

To the Ends of the Earth

Understand:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

- Retell with increasing detail one of the following accounts: the Road to Emmaus (Lk 24:13-35), the Promise of the Spirit and the Ascension (Acts 1:1-11), Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). U1.5.2.
- Simply sequence the story of Jesus studied from earlier branches (as Luke does in Acts 1:1)
- Make simple connections between the mission of the Church and the mission of Jesus as he announced it at the beginning of Luke's Gospel (Lk 4:16-19).
- Recognise that Catholics celebrate the Ascension of Jesus and Pentecost on special days called holydays.

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think creatively about what they have studied, for example, through:

- Imagining how the apostles felt during the events following the Resurrection.
- Talking about the different ways experience of the Holy Spirit is expressed in some of the stories from the Bible they have heard across the Year One branches (e.g., 'God's spirit hovered over the water' (Gen 1:1), a shadow in the Annunciation (Lk 1:35), or wind and fire in Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4)).
- Looking at and discussing ways the Holy Spirit is described in art or music.
- Listening to and asking questions about the experiences of how others celebrate Pentecost in different places and cultures.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by:

- Thinking about why prayer is an important part of life for many people.
- Hearing the words of the Glory Be and hymns that reference Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and joining in prayerfully if they choose to do so. R1.5.3. Considering how Christians announce the Gospel to others through their words and actions.

Dialogue & Encounter

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

- Know that Christian means follower of Jesus Christ.
- Recognise that Catholics are a part of a global Christian family, and all Christians are sisters and brothers.
- Recognise simple connections between Jesus' life and message and how Christians live today.
- Recognise that the cross is a symbol of Christianity, and the sign of the cross is a prayer expressing Christian belief.
- Correctly use religious words and phrases to recognise features of Jewish religious life and practice (e.g., including specific vocabulary about the Jewish belief in one God and the special clothes some Jewish people wear each day).

Discern:

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to talk and think critically and creatively about what they have studied, for example, through:

- Listening to the stories and experiences of Christians from their local parish and asking them questions.
- Talking about their personal response to and artistic expression of Christian belief in a different Christian community (e.g., Missa Luba; Pentecostal Gospel music tradition; Contemporary Christian Praise and Worship music; Welsh choirs, Jesus Mafa paintings)
- Asking questions about the stories and experiences of Jewish people.

Respond:

During this unit of study, pupils will be invited to respond to their learning, for example by:

- Considering how Christians in their local parish community could work together to help people.

Year 2 Learning Objectives

The Chosen People

- Know that we are chosen by God and that we thank God by helping others.
- Know why God chose Abraham and think about how Abraham trusted God to guide him.
- Know that God chose Moses to help his people and reflect on how he looked after him.
- Understand that Daniel had to be brave and trust in God. Think how important it is for us to trust in God.

The Mystery of God

- Know what is meant by 'a mystery'. Reflect on some mysteries.
- Know that the Trinity is a great mystery. Reflect on ways we can think about the Trinity.
- Know that God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus. Reflect on what Mary said to the angel.
- Know that in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Think of ways to prepare for his birth.
- Know about the birth of Jesus. Think about why it is important for us.
- Know that the Wise Men came to worship Jesus. Think of ways we can show our love for Jesus.

The Good News

- Know about the Holy Family. Reflect on Jesus being young.
- Know that Jesus chose some helpers. Think about what we can learn from Simon Peter and Andrew.
- Know the story of the Ten Lepers and think about why it is important to say 'Thank You'.
- Know that Jesus worked a miracle to feed the hungry crowd. Be aware that Jesus asks us to help others in need.
- Know that Jesus cured a man who was paralysed. Reflect on the great love Jesus has for all who are sick.

The Mass

- Know what happens at Mass. Reflect on why it is important for us.
- Know what happens at the beginning of Mass. Reflect on what we should do.
- Know why it is important to listen to the Readings. Reflect on how the readings can help us.

- Know that at the Offertory we offer gifts to God. Think about the gifts we can offer.
- Know what happens at the Consecration. Think about how important this is for us.
- Know that it is Jesus we receive in Holy Communion. Reflect on how important this is for us.

Easteride

- Know that Jesus rose from the dead on the first Easter Sunday. Reflect on what this tells us about Jesus.
- Know that Jesus appeared to the disciples. Reflect on what it was like for them.
- Know what happened after the Resurrection. Think about why the Resurrection is important for us.
- Know that Jesus goes back to heaven. Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know that the Apostles received the Holy Spirit. Be aware of how the Holy Spirit helped the Apostles.

The First Christians

- Know how the Holy Spirit helped the Apostles. Think of ways we can be like them.
- Know about the first Christians. Think of ways we can be like them.
- Know how Jesus was able to help Peter and John. Be aware that we can trust Jesus to help us.
- Recall that the Holy Spirit was able to help the Apostles. Be aware that the Holy Spirit helps us.
- Know about Peter's escape from prison. Reflect on what we can learn from it.

