



Religious Education at Chilham St Mary's

Intent

At Chilham St. Mary's, our intent is to provide a rich and meaningful R.E. curriculum that enables children to understand, appreciate, and interact with the diverse building blocks of religions and worldviews. Rooted in our school's values of **Love, Trust, Respect, Honesty, Forgiveness, and Perseverance**, our R.E. teaching helps every individual develop firm foundations of knowledge while encouraging them to explore life's big questions with curiosity and confidence.

We aim to nurture children who can hold balanced, respectful, and well-informed conversations about religions and belief. Through enquiry-led learning, children will appreciate how belief shapes lives in the modern world and learn to view the world through multiple lenses.

Our curriculum inspires children to become independent thinkers who are able to make sense of their own ideas about religion and belief. We encourage both collaborative learning and risk taking, so that pupils develop resilience, openness, and the confidence to achieve.

Ultimately, we want children to leave Chilham with a secure knowledge of Christianity and other principal religions, an appreciation of diverse worldviews, and the skills to contribute positively to the wider world. In doing so, they will be empowered to reach their full potential as thoughtful, respectful, and compassionate individuals.

Implementation

At Chilham, our R.E. curriculum is carefully designed to be inclusive, engaging, and progressive. It is taught through a combination of:

- **Enquiry-led questions** that spark curiosity and encourage critical thinking.
- **Collaborative discussions and debates**, enabling children to listen, reflect, and build balanced arguments.
- **Independent exploration**, where pupils are encouraged to reflect personally on what they have learned.

- **Practical experiences**, including role-play, drama, art, and opportunities to engage with visitors and places of worship.
- **Cross-curricular links**, supporting wider learning and connecting R.E. concepts to real-life experiences.

Teachers provide adaptive support to ensure every individual can access the curriculum and thrive. This may include the use of key vocabulary banks, pre-teaching, visual aids, and well-prepared resources.

Regular opportunities are provided for children to revisit prior learning, building knowledge progressively.

We actively celebrate diversity by introducing a wide range of voices and perspectives. Through stories, festivals, artefacts, and encounters with people of different faiths, children see that R.E. is for everyone and helps us to live well together.

Impact

The impact of our R.E. curriculum is that children develop curiosity, respect, and independence as learners. They are able to hold thoughtful, respectful conversations about religion and belief, demonstrating confidence to engage with questions of meaning and values.

By the end of their time at Chilham, children will:

- Have firm foundations of knowledge about Christianity and other world religions.
- Appreciate diversity and recognise that every individual has the right to their own beliefs.
- Be able to use enquiry to ask and answer deep questions about life, belief, and morality.
- Work both collaboratively and independently to explore challenging ideas.
- Have the confidence to take risks in discussion, sharing their views respectfully.
- Understand the importance of love, compassion, and respect in building strong communities.

This impact is evidenced through pupil voice, high-quality work, and the ability of children to articulate their learning with clarity and confidence. Our learners leave Chilham with the resilience, openness, and confidence to achieve their full potential and to make a positive difference in the wider world.