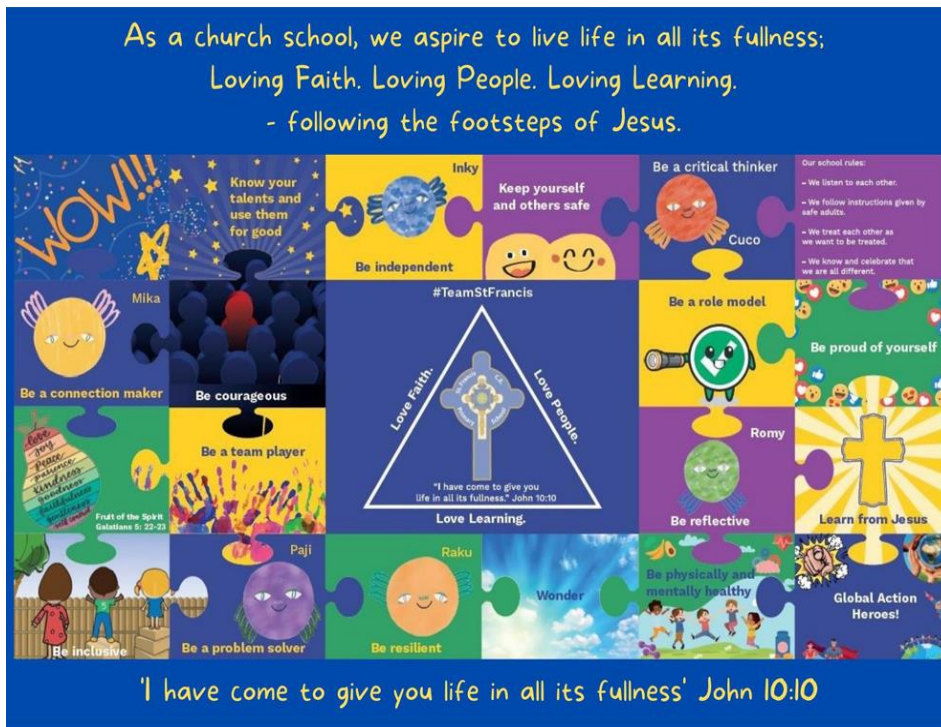




St Francis Church of England Primary School



Our vision is at the core of everything we do. It underpins our teaching and learning, interactions and environment.

Policy Title:

RE Policy

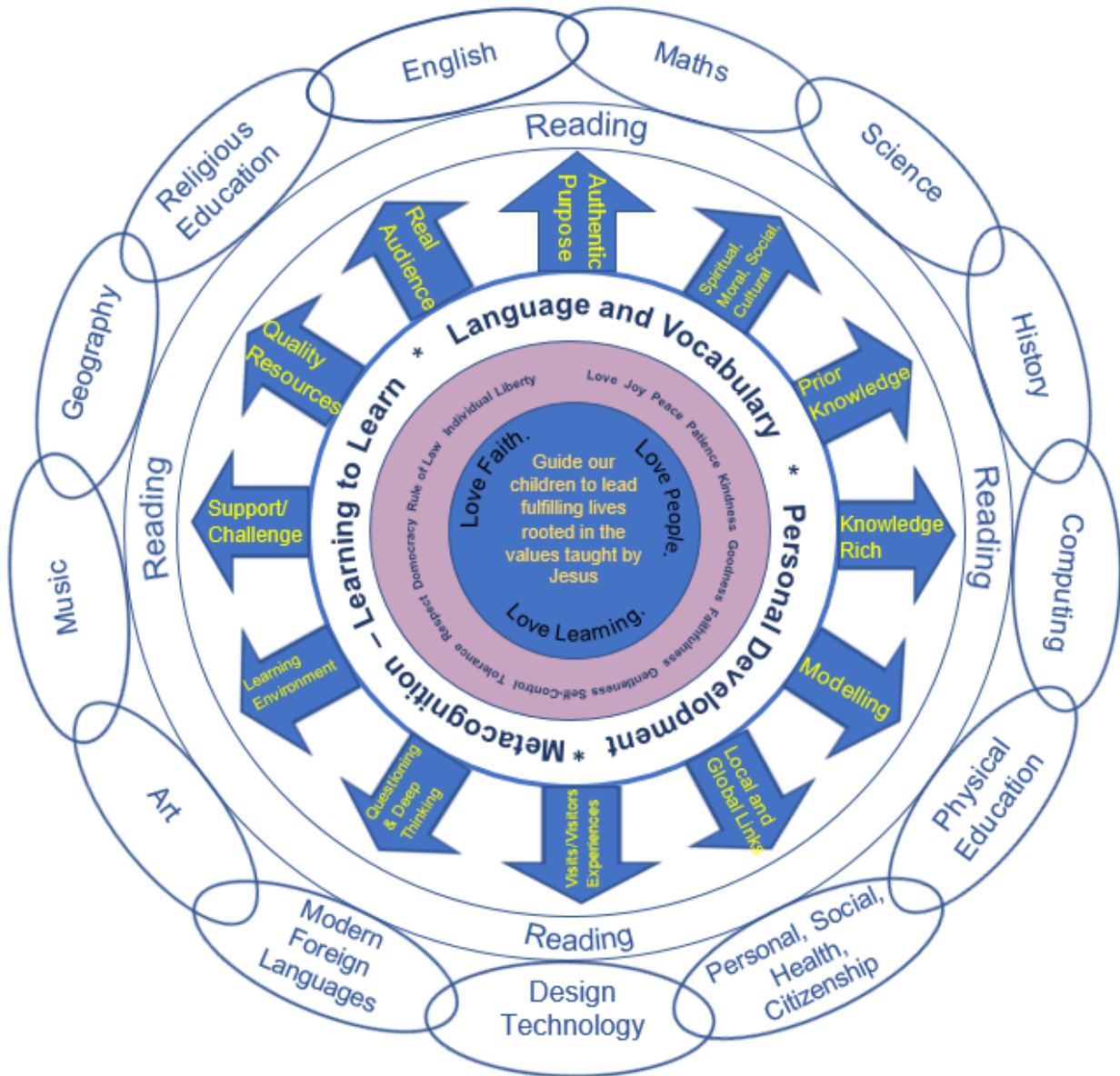
Date of Policy:	Spring Term 2021	Review Cycle:	Annually
Policy Review Date:	Spring Term 2022	Updates:	Updated role of teachers in line with changes to T+L policy, made link changes to new EYFS documentation, split planning and assessment, included teaching model, made links to T+L policy for planning and assessment, included Mode A:Mode B teaching.
Policy Review Date:	Spring Term 2023	Updates:	Policy updated to reflect the changes of planning focus and resources used.
Policy Review Date:		Updates:	
Policy Review Date:		Updates:	

Headteacher: *J. Kewley*

Chair of Governors: *N. Duffy*



1) MODEL OF CURRICULUM



2) SUBJECT VISION

As a church school, our vision for teaching RE is deeply Christian, encompassing our school vision of Jesus' values and the mission statement of Love Faith. Love People. Love Learning. Through learning about faith and through faith, children question the impact and reflect on the significance on their own lives. They develop religious literacy by discussing and listening, questioning and explaining, thinking and making connections so that they are able to think more deeply about God's creation, their faith and those of others.



3) LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy will have regard to the following statutory and non-statutory guidance within the primary national curriculum. Available at: [Primary National Curriculum](#)

The national curriculum states the legal requirement that:

'Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based, and which:

promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils; and prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.'

As a voluntary aided school, St. Francis follows the RE scheme of work in accordance with the trust deed written by Blackburn Diocese, 2017.

4) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Role of Subject Leader

The Teaching and Learning Policy, page 3 – section 1.3 states:

'Subject Leaders will:

- *Develop and review curriculum policies and schemes of work in collaboration with colleagues.*
- *Ensure that all relevant required subject leadership paperwork is carried out, for example, subject action plan and leader reports.*
- *Take accountability for the progress of children in their given subject.*
- *Report on the effectiveness of the curriculum to the senior leadership team and the governing body.*
- *Provide professional advice to the governors' curriculum sub-committee.*
- *Ensure their Scheme of Work details the following: National Curriculum coverage, Objectives, Precise Knowledge, Vocabulary, Links to visits/visitors/experience, Map of prior learning, Links to SMSC, Christian values and mission statement.*
- *Keep up-to-date through reading and attending relevant courses*
- *Sharing subject knowledge and pedagogy amongst colleagues to distribute best practice across the school'*

4.2 Role of Class Teacher

The Teaching and Learning Policy, page 3-4 – section 1.4 states:

'Teachers will:

- *Teach using the instructional and pupil culture routine to echo the learning science the teaching and learning is based upon.*
- *Have strong formative assessment within lessons that drives their instruction to ensure children's learning needs are met.*
- *Hold the mindset of 'No-opt Out'; ensure 100% compliance and utilise routines to ensure high engagement in learning from all children, irrespective of ability*
- *Utilise mixed ability or flexible groups to meet need.*
- *Be reflective practitioners.*
- *Take on board all training opportunities provided by changing and adapting teaching pedagogy.*
- *Accurately monitor and evaluate their teaching against the national teaching standards and their appraisal targets.*
- *Seek professional dialogue and constructive criticism from senior leaders, teaching colleagues or subject leaders.*
- *Review and evaluate their planning regularly to ensure it meets with subject consistencies laid out in subject policy and the staff handbook.*
- *Set appropriate and challenging targets for pupils based on ability.*
- *Collaborate with colleagues to moderate pupil achievement.*



- *Involve parents and other professionals in the learning process.*
- *Complete all relevant assessment data required through the assessment cycle.*
- *Promote a growth mindset for the children, utilising metacognitive research.*
- *Consider the welfare and safety of children and act within the safeguarding policy as we believe effective learners have to be safe learners.*
- *Provide a challenging and stimulating curriculum, designed to encourage all children to reach the highest standards of achievement*
- *Ensure that their lessons develop children's deeper thinking and use strategies to support the transference of knowledge to the long-term memory*
- *Be excellent role models, punctual, well prepared and organised.*
- *Have a positive attitude to change and the development of their own expertise.*
- *Ensure that their teaching promotes the love of learning through the use of a range of strategies, including visits, visitors and experiences.*
- *Manage behaviour consistently through the school's behaviour policy*

5) EYFS PROVISION

The teaching of this subject relates to the following areas of the EYFS framework:

The new EYFS framework has a specific reference to RE in the EYFS goal Understanding the World: People, Culture and Communities which states that children should:

“know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.”

The EYFS statutory framework can be found at: [EYFS Statutory Framework](#)

The EYFS non-statutory Development Matters guidance can be found at: [Development Matters](#)

6) THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The teaching of the curriculum for the named subject links directly and ensures appropriate coverage of the Primary National Curriculum.

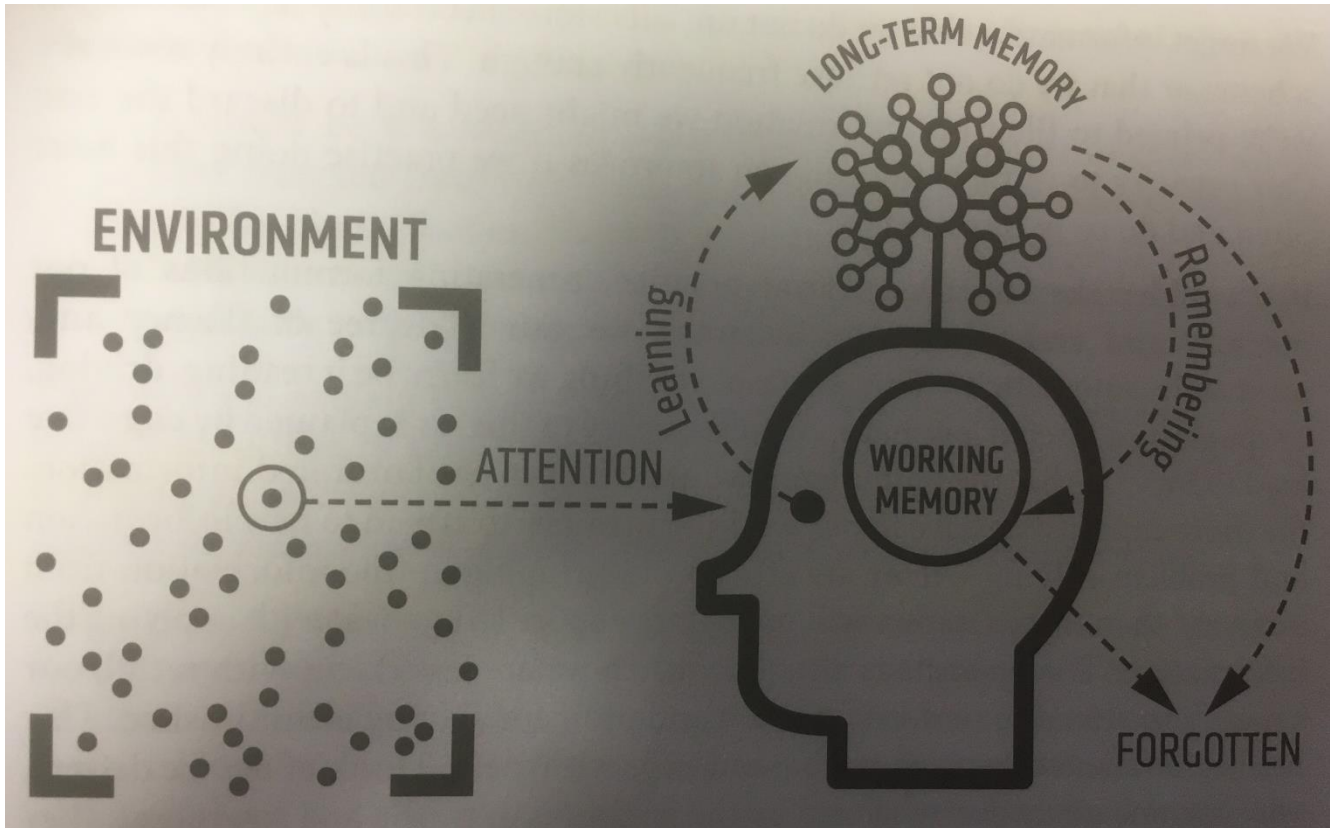
The Primary National Curriculum can be found at: [Primary National Curriculum](#)

7) OUR TEACHING MODEL

Our teaching and learning is based upon research around how learning works. This is the foundation as to how we teach at St. Francis CEP School.

Tom Sherrington – Rosenshine's Principles in Action

A simple model for how memory works is based on the concept of building schemata in our long-term memory, as follows:



See section 4 of our Teaching and Learning Policy for more information as to how we teach to support this model. Our Teaching and Learning Policy can be found [here](#).

The Teaching of RE

As a core subject for our church school, RE is taught by class teachers once a week for no less than an hour.

Lessons are based on the unit plans provided by Blackburn Diocese for Education's Scheme of Work and take the children on a 'questful' journey beginning with their own lives, learning about a Bible story or religious element, and ending with deeper thinking regarding the impact of their learning on themselves and others.

At St. Francis school we do not record our RE learning in individual exercise books: instead each class has a large Religious Reflections book where written work, art work, photographs, post-it note thoughts and other activities are recorded as a whole-class record of their learning.

Unit titles and journey headings should be consistent with those shared within the RE folder on Staff Shared, to provide a common language throughout school within RE learning.

Teachers are encouraged to ensure that children can 'talk through' their learning as recorded in their RR books, and they are able to relate the RE units to their own lives.

An RE Display or Working Wall is also expected in every class: with the unit name, Big Question, children's responses, vocabulary and other relevant information for the current unit. Previous displays should also been seen as photographs around the display board as a way to recall previous learning in RE.

8) PLANNING

Planning of the subject has been completed to ensure progression in knowledge as the children move through the school. The Long-term plan for this subject area can be found on our curriculum section of our website: [Curriculum Section of Website](#)

The detail of content, including precise knowledge has been set for each year group as outlined in the Long-Term Plan. It is the role of the class teacher to place this into short-term planning to cover in their classes.

The teaching and learning policy demands that teachers plan the outlined content taking consideration of the following:

Love Faith. Love People. Love Learning.



- Cognitive load
- Learning organisation
- Learning progression
- Learning steps
- Sequential – retrieval practice
- Mode A:Mode B Teaching

The Teaching and Learning Policy, section 5.8 (page 11), defines Mode A:Mode B teaching as:

During the planning process, the teacher will identify which type of teaching is required.

Mode A:

Every teacher needs to be able to deliver high-quality instructional teaching. This is Mode A. Explaining, Modelling, Questioning, Checking for Understanding, Guiding Practice. This is identifying when content requires explicit instruction.

Mode B:

Mode B teaching usually involves content that would benefit from a child-led, curious and inquisitive approach, for example, a science experiment. "I have put some resources on your table, explore and come up with some statements and/or questions to share"

Teachers will use instructional routines throughout Mode B teaching.

Unlike Mode A teaching, which will be a daily default, Mode B elements can be woven into the curriculum at varying frequencies. Some elements might be daily, some weekly or monthly, some might happen once per unit of learning or just once a year. Mode B elements offer a depth and richness that supplements the staple diet of Mode A. There are no hard and fast rules and whole lessons could easily be devoted entirely to one mode or the other.

Section five of the teaching and learning policy sets out the processes of planning in our school.

Our Teaching and Learning Policy can be found [here](#).

9) ASSESSMENT

RE is assessed following the RE ladder as per the Blackburn Diocese Scheme of Work.

Section six of the teaching and learning policy sets out the processes of assessment in our school.

Our Teaching and Learning Policy can be found [here](#).

10) SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL (SMSC) DEVELOPMENT

Definition of SMSC:

Spiritual

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

Moral

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

Social

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

Cultural



Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Opportunities for SMSC throughout the curriculum offer is extremely important. Please see curriculum map to view the intentional and purposeful planning of SMSC learning.

11) MONITORING

The Teaching of RE is monitored half-termly, which includes discussions with pupils and viewing the class Religious Reflections book. All feedback is given to class teachers.

12) SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITY

See our Special Educational Needs and/or Disability policy [here](#).

13) HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

See our Health and Safety policy [here](#).

14) RESOURCES, INCLUDING SUITABLE TEXTS

See curriculum map with the above included. ([Curriculum Section of Website](#))

15) COMMUNITY LINKS – LOCAL AND GLOBAL

See curriculum map with the above included. ([Curriculum Section of Website](#))

16) VISITS, VISITORS AND EXPERIENCES

See curriculum map with the above included. ([Curriculum Section of Website](#))