



Religious Education (RE) Policy

Approved on behalf of Governing Body:

.....
(Chair of Governors)


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. G. 2024'.

Approved on behalf of School:

..... ..
(Head teacher)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Holt'.

December 2024
December 2026

The logo for Nether Stowey Church of England Primary School is a circular emblem. It features a central cross with a red top and bottom arm, and green left and right arms. The cross is set against a background of a green field with yellow flowers. The words 'Nether Stowey' are written in a yellow, stylized font around the top half of the circle, and 'Church of England Primary School' is written around the bottom half.

Our Vision
Nether Stowey Church of England Primary School
inspires a love of learning in all of us with
Christian values at our heart.
Our school community is a safe, caring friendly place where
everyone is welcome.
We give all children and staff the opportunity and encouragement to
aim high and develop their strengths and interests.
We strive to understand, respect and value each other, our school, our community
and the world we live in.

We are caring. We are active. We are our best

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

We are caring. We are active. We are our best

‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself’ Matthew 22:3

Nether Stowey Church of England Primary School inspires a love of learning in all of us with Christian values at our heart. Our school community is a safe, caring friendly place where everyone is welcome. We give all children and staff the opportunity and encouragement to aim high and develop their strengths and interests. We strive to understand, respect and value each other, our school, our community and the world we live in.

‘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 educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live life well together.’ RE Statement of Entitlement from the Church of England Education Office Feb 2019

Policy Statement

Religious Education (RE) has a very high profile within the Nether Stowey C of E VC Primary school curriculum and makes a significant contribution to preparing pupils for life in modern Britain. Learning activities provide fully for the needs of all learners. Pupils will be inspired by the subject and develop a wide range of skills such as enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection, to deepen their understanding of the impact of religion on the world. Christianity is taught as a living and diverse faith, focused on the teachings of Jesus and the Church, alongside a range of religions and worldviews. Religious Education encourages pupils to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while creating a safe space for them to explore their own beliefs and questions of meaning.

Legal Requirements

As a Voluntary Controlled (VC) School, at Nether Stowey we are required to follow the locally agreed syllabus AMV <https://www.amvsomerset.org.uk/> drawn up by the standing Advisory Council for Religious Education [SACRE]

Section 48 of the 2005 Education Act requires the inspection of religious education in schools which have a religious character. This is the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

Manging the right to withdraw

Parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the Religious Education curriculum. In this event, we will undertake responsibility for their supervision with regard to health and safety. Information on these arrangements are clear on our website. There will always be opportunity for parents to discuss the contents of the RE curriculum should they have concerns.

Aims of RE

- To enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as the religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage.
- To enable pupils to know about and understand other major world religions and world views, their impact on society, culture and the wider world, and to appreciate the diversity, continuity and change within those religions and world views
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose
- To contribute to the development of pupils' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values.

Teaching and Learning

In line with the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement [2019] at Nether Stowey School we aim to provide:

- A curriculum that enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice
- A curriculum that draws on the richness and diversity of religious experience worldwide
- The opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religion and world views as lived by believers
- A pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations; and, in which real dialogue and theological enquiry takes place

- Engaging and varied learning activities that provide for the needs of all learners, supported by high quality resources
- The opportunity for pupils to develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection
- RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development and to pupils' understanding of British values
- An assessment process which has rigour and demonstrates progression based on knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts

Implementation

- Religious education may be taught in a 'whole class' setting but with flexibility to allow for discussion, questioning and reflection in small groups and individually
- Visits to local churches and other places of worship are encouraged
- A variety of teaching approaches are encouraged:
 - Teacher presentations, role play, drama and story telling
 - Questions and answer sessions, discussions and debates
 - Individual and group research
 - Photographs, pictures and maps
 - IT, film, podcasts, radio, websites, to research and communicate ideas.

Curriculum balance and time

Reflecting Nether Stowey School's trust deed. Christianity should be the majority religion studied and should be at least 50% of curriculum time. Sufficient dedicated curriculum time, meeting explicitly RE objectives, should be given to RE. This should aim to be close to 10% but no less than 5% in key stages 1 and 2

Resources

Understanding Christianity materials, is stored in the staffroom

Artefacts are stored in the large hall cupboard.

Books and bibles can be found in the school library and classrooms.

Resources for learning can be used to gain resources.

Access to local Clergy and Church buildings.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment, Recording, Reporting

- Governors have responsibility for monitoring how the RE in the school reflects its Christian vision

- The headteacher has overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluation.
- The RE subject leader will assist the headteacher by monitoring long term and medium-term plans.
- The RE subject leader will assist the headteacher by monitoring RE through work scrutinise
- The subject leader will keep a file of examples of work to demonstrate continuity and progression.
- The subject leader will manage resources.
- The subject leader will endeavour to keep up to date with information, initiatives and developments in religious education and disseminate this as appropriate.
- The subject leader will be aware of staff development needs and encourage continuing professional development.
- The subject leader will facilitate the sharing of good practice.
- The subject leader will be responsible for drawing up an action plan for religious education. Generally, this will be an annual plan and should be informed by this policy.
- The subject leader will liaise with the Diocesan adviser with responsibility for Religious Education