St Botolph's Church of England Primary School.
Quarrington, Sleaford.

Religious Education Policy – Updated September 2026

"Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life." Proverbs 22:6

Our vision is to nurture every person's unique God-given potential by teaching them how to live with respect, compassion, and integrity, so that the values they learn today will guide them for a lifetime.

Our children will strive to be the best they can be.

The Intent:

At St Botolph's, Religious Education (RE) is central to the life of our school and is a key way we live out our Christian vision: **"Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life." – Proverbs 22:6**

RE enables children to explore deep questions of meaning, purpose, and belief. It supports pupils in developing a clear understanding of Christianity as a living world faith while also fostering respect and curiosity for the beliefs and practices of others.

Our intent is for RE to be:

- **Rooted in Christianity** – exploring the Bible, the life and teachings of Jesus, and the impact of Christian faith on individuals and communities today.
- **Respectful and Inclusive** – encouraging understanding and respect for different faiths and worldviews, creating a space where all pupils feel valued and heard.
- **Reflective and Personal** – offering opportunities for children to

consider their own beliefs, values, and identity in light of what they learn.

- **Theologically Rigorous** – developing pupils' ability to think deeply, ask challenging questions, and explore theological ideas with curiosity and respect.
- **Practical and Relevant** – connecting faith and belief to everyday life, social action, and moral decision-making.

Through RE, we aim to help children understand themselves, others, and the world in which they live — recognising that faith and belief shape lives, communities, and cultures.

The Vision

We aim for RE to shape not only what children know, but how they think, feel, and live.

Ultimately, we hope that RE at St Botolph's inspires pupils to:

- Think deeply and critically about life's big questions.
- Appreciate the richness of religious and cultural diversity in our world.
- Develop moral courage, empathy, and a strong sense of integrity.
- Recognise the continuing importance of faith in shaping values, identity, and community life.

We want our children to carry these insights beyond school, remembering, as Proverbs 22:6 says, the wisdom they have encountered and the understanding they have gained.

Our Aims

Through our RE curriculum, we aim for every child to:

- Develop a deep understanding of Christianity as a living faith that influences individuals and communities around the world.
- Learn about and from other principal religions and worldviews represented locally, nationally, and globally.
- Engage in thoughtful discussion and questioning about meaning, purpose, and belief.
- Make connections between biblical teachings, Christian values, and their own lives.
- Show respect, tolerance, and understanding for people of all

faiths and none.
• Develop skills of critical thinking, empathy, reflection, and evaluation.
• Recognise how faith can inspire people to make positive contributions to society and the world.

Implementation

At St Botolph's, RE is taught as a distinct and valued part of the curriculum for all pupils, with dedicated weekly lessons. It is central to our identity as a Church of England school and is delivered in accordance with the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus for RE (2028-33) and supported by Understanding Christianity.

Our Approach:
• Curriculum Balance - Christianity forms at least 50% of our RE curriculum. Other major world faiths studied include Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, and Sikhism, along with opportunities to explore non-religious worldviews such as Humanism.
• Progression and Depth - Teaching builds knowledge and understanding progressively from EYFS to Year 6, enabling pupils to develop increasing theological literacy, vocabulary, and reflection.
• Big Questions - Learning is framed around key questions that encourage exploration, reasoning, and personal response (e.g., "What does it mean to have faith?" or "Why do Christians call Jesus 'Light of the World'?").
• Use of 'Understanding Christianity' - Lessons make strong use of this resource, linking biblical text, belief, and practice, and encouraging children to make connections between Christian ideas and their own experience.
• Enquiry-Based Learning - Pupils investigate religious ideas through stories, artefacts, art, music, visits, visitors, discussion, and reflection.
• Links to Collective Worship and Values - RE themes often connect to the Christian values explored in worship, reinforcing consistency in message and ethos.

• Visits and Visitors – Children visit places of worship (including St Botolph's Church and faith communities beyond Christianity) and meet believers from different traditions to deepen understanding.
• Assessment – Assessment focuses on knowledge, understanding, and personal reflection, using the 'three strands' approach: Making Sense of Beliefs, Understanding the Impact, Making Connections.
• Inclusion – RE is for all pupils, regardless of faith or belief. Every child is invited to engage and contribute in ways that respect their background and experience.

Impact

The impact of RE at St Botolph's is seen in the way children think, question, and live. It shapes their worldview, moral understanding, and capacity for respect and compassion. Through RE, children:
• Demonstrate secure knowledge of key beliefs, stories, and practices in Christianity and other world religions.
• Make meaningful links between faith, values, and daily life.
• Reflect thoughtfully on their own beliefs and those of others.
• Speak with confidence, respect, and empathy about spiritual and moral issues.
• Appreciate diversity and show understanding and tolerance towards others.
• Apply what they learn in RE to real-life issues, showing kindness, courage, and integrity in their choices and relationships.

We evaluate the impact of worship regularly through:

The impact of RE is monitored and evaluated through:

- Pupil voice and reflection
- Book looks and evidence of progression
- Lesson observations
- Staff and pupil feedback
- RE subject leader and governor monitoring

RE Subject Leader - Natasha Hann
RE Governor - Father Philip
Church School Link - Angela Pope