

Coningsby St. Michael's CofE Primary School

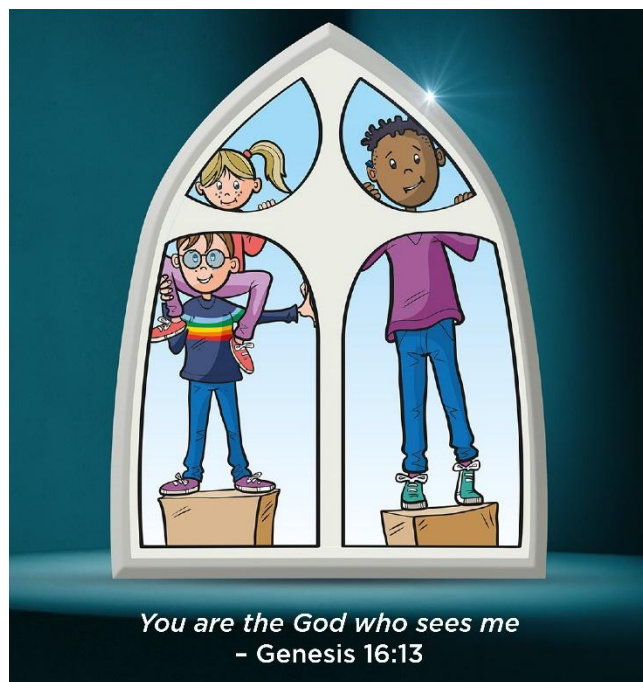


BELIEVE. ASPIRE. SUCCEED.

Religious Education Policy

Written	Mrs S Liley May 2026
Review frequency	Bi- Annually
Checked by	
Next review due	May 2028

This policy should be read in conjunction with other policies in school including: Collective Worship, PSHE, Teaching and Learning and Marking and Feedback.



Excellence, Exploration and Encouragement powered by Equity

The LAAT window allows us to see:

- The past, on which we build
- The present, for us and for others
- The future we seek to become.

Grounded in faith, we seek to see and understand all in our diverse communities and beyond.

Every pupil has the right to flourish; academically, physically, emotionally, and spiritually, through an educational experience based on Excellence, Exploration and Encouragement.

Every pupil has the right to receive what they need. And every child will need different things at different times. Providing this, is Equity at work.



The Context

As Jesus welcomes and values children, we at St Michael's **aspire** to welcome and value all members of our community. We **believe** that this welcome and value provides opportunities for all to **succeed**.

As Jesus welcomes and values children, we at St Michael's aspire to welcome and value all members of our community. We believe that this welcome and value provides opportunities for all to succeed.

*He called a little child to him and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. **Matthew 18: 2-5***

Our curriculum is shaped by our Christian vision, rooted in the example of Jesus in Matthew 18:2–5, and is driven by our commitment to welcome and value every member of our community. We believe that when children feel truly known, respected and included, they are best able to succeed, and this underpins our ambition for a broad, inclusive and aspirational curriculum. Through carefully planned learning experiences, we ensure that all pupils—regardless of background or starting point—are supported to flourish academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally. We nurture individual strengths and provide opportunities for pupils to develop confidence, resilience and a sense of belonging, enabling them to contribute positively to others. Religious Education is central to this vision, as it explores the

teachings of Jesus, particularly the importance of valuing each person, and supports pupils in understanding both Christian beliefs and a range of worldviews. Through RE, pupils develop empathy, reflection and critical thinking, learning to treat others with dignity, engage thoughtfully with big questions, and live out values of welcome, respect and success within their school and wider community.

St Michael's Church of England School is a medium size rural school for children in the age range 4 to 11. We work to the Lincolnshire Locally Agreed Syllabus for RE.

As a Church of England school, we recognise the core place that RE occupies as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. We also understand the contribution of effective RE to our journey towards realising our school's distinctively Christian vision.

We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds that make up our school community and we respect this variety of backgrounds in the spirit of Christian welcome. We are glad to have good relationships with faith and belief practitioners from a range of religious and non-religious worldviews, and we value their contribution to our provision of effective RE.

We actively seek to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain. As such, we promote key British values, including respect for and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We challenge racism and all forms of prejudice and we see RE as one curriculum area in which our pupils can encounter and critically reflect on a range of religious and non-religious worldviews.

The Purpose of RE at Coningsby St Michael's Church of England School

We teach RE as a core part of our school curriculum to help our pupils develop their religion and worldview literacy. We understand this to be our pupils' ability to hold informed, balanced and critically-engaged conversations about religions and beliefs, including their own. RE in our school is delivered in an objective, critical and pluralist manner.

The Aims of RE at Coningsby St Michael's Church of England School

RE at Coningsby St Michael's Church of England School is provided within legal requirements. These are as follows:

1. The Basic Curriculum must include provision for RE for all pupils registered on the school roll, including those in Reception class who are less than five years old.
2. The content of RE must reflect the fact that the religious traditions of Great Britain are, in the main, Christian; it must also reflect the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain
3. The RE curriculum provided will be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Lincolnshire

We deliver RE in accordance with the Church of England Education Office's [Statement of Entitlement](#). We also pay due attention to the [Ofsted RE Research Review](#) (2021), the [National Content Standard for Religious Education](#) (2023) and the [Ofsted RE subject report](#) (2024).

Within this context, our aims in RE are for pupils to:

- Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and a range of other religious and non-religious worldviews;
- Develop an understanding of the ways in which religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings, practices, values and traditions influence individuals, communities, societies and cultures, from the local to the global contexts;
- Develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the beliefs, teachings, practices, sources of authority and ways of living associated with the principle religions represented in the UK;
- Develop positive attitudes of mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;
- Enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
 - Considering the 'big questions' raised by human experience and reflecting on how religious and other traditions respond to them;
 - Responding to such questions with reference to religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings, practices, values and traditions, relating them to their own understanding and experience;
 - Reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in light of their study of religious and non-religious worldviews.

Time Allocation

It is the expectation of the Church of England Education Office that RE should constitute a minimum of 5% curriculum time. This is in line with the recommendations made by the Dearing Report (1994). We meet this expectation by providing the minimum time of 36 hours per year for KS1 and 45 hours per year for KS2. This time is arranged as discrete hour-long lessons per week/in a range of ways, including discrete weekly/fortnightly lessons and RE days.

RE forms part of the planning at EYFS; although there is no expected time allocation at this level, we expect that there will be connections made between RE and the Early Years areas of learning.

RE curriculum time does not include values lessons, spirituality or collective worship.

RE Curriculum Design

Our RE curriculum is based on the Lincolnshire locally agreed syllabus and can be provided on request. At KS1, the principal religious worldviews studied will be Christianity and [e.g. Judaism]; at KS2, the principal religious worldviews studied will be Christianity, [e.g. Islam, Judaism and Hinduism]. It is not expected that pupils will study all six major world religions in depth during their time at Coningsby St

Michael's C of E School although they will have learning opportunities that allow them to encounter a range of religious worldviews. It is expected that pupils will also engage with non-religious worldviews, such as Humanism, as part of the RE curriculum.

We carry out curriculum planning for RE in three phases (long-term, medium-term and short-term). The long-term plan maps the sequence of learning in RE; the medium-term plan gives details of each unit of study delivered to each Key Stage, identifying clearly the different types of knowledge developed through the sequence of learning. As we have mixed-age classes, we carry out the medium-term planning on a two-year cycle. The RE Subject Leader writes the medium term plans and the class teacher writes the plans for each lesson. These are reviewed by the RE Subject Leader and form part of the annual monitoring process for RE teaching and learning.

Curriculum Implementation

We ensure that teaching and learning in RE meets the needs of all pupils; the implementation of the curriculum focuses on ensuring all pupils develop the expected substantive, disciplinary and personal knowledge in RE. The impact of this is monitored through regular formative and summative assessment processes. We identify RE as one of the core subjects through which our pupils can develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, but we do not limit the delivery of SMSC to this subject alone. We provide an annual report on each pupil's progress in RE. This report will be based on regular monitoring of work in RE using a variety of methods, including verbal feedback, evidence folders and written comments on individual pieces of work.

Resources

Coningsby St Michael's C of E School has invested in a wide range of appropriate books, artefacts, audio and visual resources, posters, persona dolls, etc., and the RE Subject Leader audits these resources annually. We take advice from the Diocesan RE Adviser and other RE professionals on the best resources to support the delivery of an effective RE curriculum.

Our planning and homework tasks are available on the school intranet to enable parents to support their child's learning in RE.

Visits and Visitors

We consider that an essential element of the delivery of effective RE is encounter with a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. We encourage our pupils to participate in visits to places of worship when the opportunity arises; these visits are arranged in line with the programme of study for RE and provide pupils with the chance to encounter world religions as living faiths in modern Britain. We also encourage members of different religious and non-religious worldviews to visit Coningsby St Michael's C of E School. These visits are arranged in accordance with the school's trips policy.

Supporting All Learners

Whole school policy with regards to SEND and adaptive teaching applies to RE. Teachers ensure that the learning activities employed in RE are adapted to meet a variety of learning needs. RE forms part of our commitment to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our RE teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive to meet the needs of all pupils and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this. For further details, see separate school policies.

Inspection

The effectiveness of the RE curriculum is inspected as part of the Section 48 SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection. Coningsby St Michael's Church of England School is a VC school. As such, progress and attainment in RE is not inspected as a distinct element of the Section 48 SIAMS inspection. It is the responsibility of the RE Subject Leader to review and maintain evidence for the RE elements of this inspection, with appropriate support from the head teacher, governors and Diocesan RE Adviser.

Monitoring and Review

We intend that this policy should operate for the next two years and then be fully reviewed by staff and governors. The RE Subject Leader will monitor the delivery of RE during each academic year to ensure that this policy is being appropriately implemented. Their role is to support and hold accountable all members of staff involved in the delivery of RE. To this end, they will ask each member of staff involved in the delivery of RE to provide a copy of their medium-term planning for RE, along with a folder of evidence of pupil progress in RE during each academic year.

The RE Subject Leader must evaluate their own leadership of the subject during each academic year. Using a self-evaluation tool, such as the school evaluation form for the RE Quality Mark, the RE Subject Leader must work with their line manager to ensure that leadership of RE remains a high priority and is of a high quality.

Withdrawal from RE

We acknowledge the right of parents/guardians to withdraw their children from RE lessons and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We acknowledge that parents/guardians/teachers do not need to provide a reason why they wish to withdraw from the subject. Should a parent/guardian wish to withdraw their child from RE lessons or a teacher wish to refuse to teach RE, we ask that they inform the school via enquiries@coningsby.laat.co.uk

We will endeavour to communicate clearly the place of RE within a broad and balanced curriculum to ensure that parents are in possession of all the necessary information. However, should a parent/guardian request that their child be withdrawn from RE, we will not attempt to persuade them to alter their decision. If a pupil is withdrawn from RE lessons, the school is required to provide supervision, *but should not incur any additional cost in so doing.*

Any queries regarding withdrawal from RE should be directed to the RE Subject Leader in the first instance, and thereafter to the head teacher.