West Earlham Infant and Nursery School
Religious Education Policy

1. Religious Education (RE) is taught and Acts of Collective Worship are carried out in accordance with the 'The Norfolk Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2019', a copy of which can be viewed at the school on request.

2. Aims

Religious Education supports the aims and values of the school curriculum. West Earlham Infant School aims to:

a. Develop children's religious literacy by exploring a range of religious and non-religious worldviews through theological, philosophical and human/social science perspectives.
b. Encourage children to investigate, question and think critically, recognising that there are diverse beliefs, values and ways of understanding religion and the world.
c. Build knowledge and understanding of a wide range of religions and worldviews, helping children appreciate their significance and impact on individuals, communities and society.
d. Inspire curiosity, wonder and meaningful enquiry through engaging learning experiences that encourage children to express ideas, ask questions and offer thoughtful insights.
e. Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment where children feel confident to share their own views while valuing and respecting the beliefs and opinions of others.an/social sciences engaging critically with religious and non-religious worldviews.

3. Objectives

a. Describe beliefs, practices and sources of authority within religions and worldviews.
b. Ask and explore theological and philosophical questions.
c. Compare similarities and differences between beliefs and practices.
d. Explain how beliefs affect people's lives and communities.
e. Use evidence to support ideas and conclusions.
f. Discuss religious and non-religious viewpoints respectfully and critically.

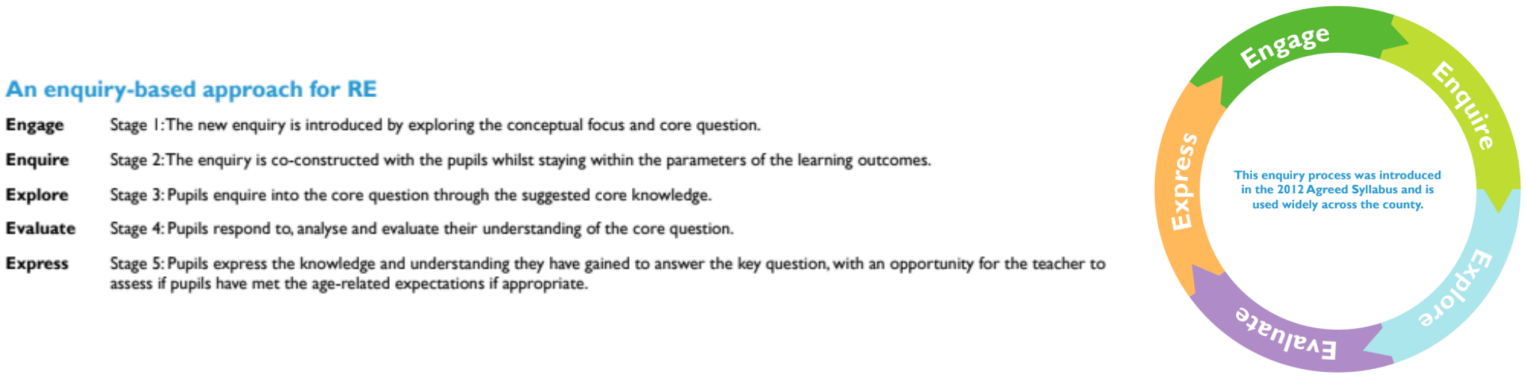
4. The Legal Position at West Earlham Infant and Nursery school

a. Religious Education and Collective Worship must be provided for all registered children in full time. RE must be provided for all registered pupils in full time education except those withdrawn at their parents' request.
b. The law relating to RE for pupils who are not yet in Key Stage One is different from that relating to subjects of the National Curriculum.
c. As RE must be taught to 'all registered pupils at the school', including children in reception.

d. Nursery children receive broadly RE-related learning through Understanding the World however they are not required to follow the statutory RE syllabus.
e. Children in SHIP units access Religious Education through a curriculum that is adapted to their age, ability, special educational needs, and reasonable adjustments. RE learning is made practical, accessible, and relevant, enabling all pupils to participate and engage at an appropriate level.
f. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and/or collective worship. Parents do not need to give reasons for their request for the withdrawal of their child from RE and / or collective worship .

5. Curriculum Planning, Teaching and learning in Early years Foundation Stage and Key stage 1

a. At West Earlham Infant and Nursery School curriculum planning centres on creating a climate for effective learning with the children's needs and enquiry at its heart. We use 'The Norfolk Best Practice Framework for Enquiry' incorporating the Five Stages of 'Engage', 'Enquire', 'Explore', 'Evaluate' and 'Express' to learn about and from religion and beliefs.



(Norfolk Agreed Syllabus, 2019)

6. Assessment and Recording

a. At West Earlham Infant and Nursery School the attainment and progress of individual children in Religious Education is reported annually as for other subjects of the curriculum.
b. Pupils' progress is assessed in relation to the purpose and aims of the subject. Therefore, this primarily concerns how well pupils are able to hold balanced and well-informed conversations about religion and worldviews. Attainment and progress are therefore linked to the multi-disciplinary approach to RE advocated throughout this syllabus.
c. Quotes and pupil voice will be recorded in whole-class floorbooks. Children will also complete an independent summative "Express" task, which will be used to support and reflect their assessment data.

7. **Monitoring**

The subject leader will monitor the quality of Religious Education across the school through lesson observations, work scrutiny, pupil voice, discussions with staff and children, curriculum reviews, and analysis of assessment data. Monitoring will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching and learning, celebrate strengths and identify areas for further development.

Related School Policies:

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Feedback Policy
- Assessment Policy

References

Department for Education Religious education (RE) and collective worship in academies and free schools (2012)
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/re-and-collective-worship-in-academies-and-free-schools/religious-education-re-and-collective-worship-in-academies-and-free-schools?utm_source=chatgpt.com

SACRE Guidance on parental right of withdrawal from Religious Education and Collective Worship (2016)
https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s62306/Right%20of%20Withdrawal%20from%20Religious%20Education%20and%20Collective%20Worship%20Guidance.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

UK Parliament House of Commons Library. Religious Education in Schools (England) (2019)
https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-7167/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Approval

This policy has been reviewed in line with the 2010 Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Act. Due regard has been given to Equality.

This policy will be adopted in September 2026. The date of the next formal review will be September 2029 and every three years thereafter, unless statutory legislation changes.

Policy approved by the Head Teacher of West Earlham Infant and Nursery School.