BY BROOK VALLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Religion and World Views Policy

Last Review Date: July 2026
Ratified By Governors Date: July 2026
Next Review Date: July 2027

Equal opportunities lie at the heart of all that we do at By Brook Valley Primary CE School. We are committed to ensuring that every member of the school community is given the same chance as any other to access the services and support of the school.
We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.
This policy is designed to meet the needs of all pupils. The policy is designed to be child-centred and to make sure as far as is possible that pupils understand what is happening in their lives, why, and what options are available to them.

Our Vision
Roots to grow, wings to fly
Planted in love, growing in wisdom; flourishing and soaring, reaching new heights

*The **roots** of our school community, based on our Christian values, nurture, help and support us to grow to be the best versions of ourselves. The **wings** of faith allow us to soar freely and flourish now and in the future.*

At By Brook Valley, we are committed to creating a positive, safe and caring Christian environment, where all members of the school and wider community will be respected and valued.
We support one another to put down strong roots within our distinctively Christian culture, growing from our core values of hope, honesty, forgiveness and friendship. In this way, we will each be the very best we can be.

This policy should be read and understood from this perspective.

R&W Intention:

At By Brook Valley CE Primary School, our aim is to provide an R&W curriculum that engages all pupils and enables them to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice, other religions, faiths and world-views, whilst developing their religious literacy.

Our high – quality sequential R&W Programme is intrinsic to our Christian vision ‘‘Roots to Grow, Wings to Fly’, enabling all pupils to flourish. It will prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in a diverse modern Britain, now and in the future.

Aims:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text;
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and world views appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions, faiths and world views studied through meaningful and informed dialogue;
- To explore core concepts, questions and key vocabulary;
- To develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection;
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain’s cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places;
- To contribute to British values and spiritual moral, social and cultural development;
- Are prepared for the next stage of their educational journey.

Linked to Church of England Education office RE Statement of Entitlement, January 2026

Religious Education is unique in the school curriculum in that it is neither a core subject nor a foundation subject but the 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils'.

The R&W Curriculum

At By Brook Valley CE Primary School, Religious education is considered an academic subject, where pupils are entitled to religious education that is delivered in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner. Our whole school curriculum enables progress through ordered and sequential learning that develops both knowledge and skills. Connections will be made within and across different religions/faiths and world beliefs.

As a church school, Christianity is the majority religion studied and is at least 50% of the curriculum time, with four units in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) focusing on themes rather than individual religions, faiths or World beliefs. We use Oak Academy as our agreed syllabus with Christianity planned, taught and assessed using 'Understanding Christianity.'

One hour a week is allocated for the teaching of Religious education in Reception and KS1; One hour fifteen minutes in KS2. Religious Education is taught as a discrete subject generally on a weekly basis. However, sometimes work will be taught in blocks or as part of themed weeks. The curriculum is planned using the Wiltshire agreed syllabus and the Understanding Christianity scheme of work in half termly blocks.

Oak Academy

Oak Academy helps pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding or religions and non-religious worldviews.

Understanding Christianity:

There are eight core concepts at the heart of Christianity that pupils need to learn and understand:

- God
- Creation
- Fall
- People of God
- Incarnation
- Gospel
- Salvation
- Kingdom of God

The core concepts are revisited throughout the different key stages, deepening pupils' understanding and making links to the overall 'big story' or 'Salvation narrative.'

Pupils will encounter these concepts, and teachers will teach them through key questions, using a model with three elements. This develops pupils' abilities to make sense of texts related to the core concepts, to understand the impact of belief in these concepts in the lives

of Christians and the Christian community, and to make connections beyond the concepts with other learning, including their own responses.

See Appendix 1& 2

Teaching and learning:

Our approach will be to use a range of teaching and learning styles to deliver the Religious Education curriculum. These will involve whole class and group teaching Which has been adapted to meet the needs of all learners. Activities for the children will include studying religious texts, rituals and festivals, speaking and listening, stories, drama and role play, writing and artwork. Creative activities, which allow the children to explore their own ideas and beliefs are important.

We will develop the children's thinking skills as:

Theologians – what people believe

Philosophers – questions about meaning, truth and ethics

Social Scientists – how beliefs are expressed

Over the course of their journey through By Brook Valley, we aim to give our children opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or arrange visits from faith communities. Each class should have the opportunity to visit one of the local churches each year or invite a member of the clergy in to school to talk with the children.

See Appendix 3

Assessment, recording and reporting:

There are no statutory Key Stage assessments for Religious Education. We have developed our own 'Big Questions' and assessment points which are used to assesschildren as below age related expectations, at age related expectations and above age related expectations in line with the curriculum standards. Teachers will use their professional judgement and these assessment standards to assess children by:

- Discussion and questioning with children.
- Assessing at children's work and tasks
- Carrying out assessment tasks The teachers will report to parents annually on the attainment in R&W.

Assessment & Monitoring of R&W

The R&W subject leader will monitor progression of skills and standards and the quality of teaching and learning through:

- Lesson drop- ins
- Learning walks
- Work scrutiny (Pupil R&W books and class floor books)
- Pupil conferencing

The subject leader will share standards, strengths and areas for development through the R&W Subject leader Review produced at the end of each academic year.

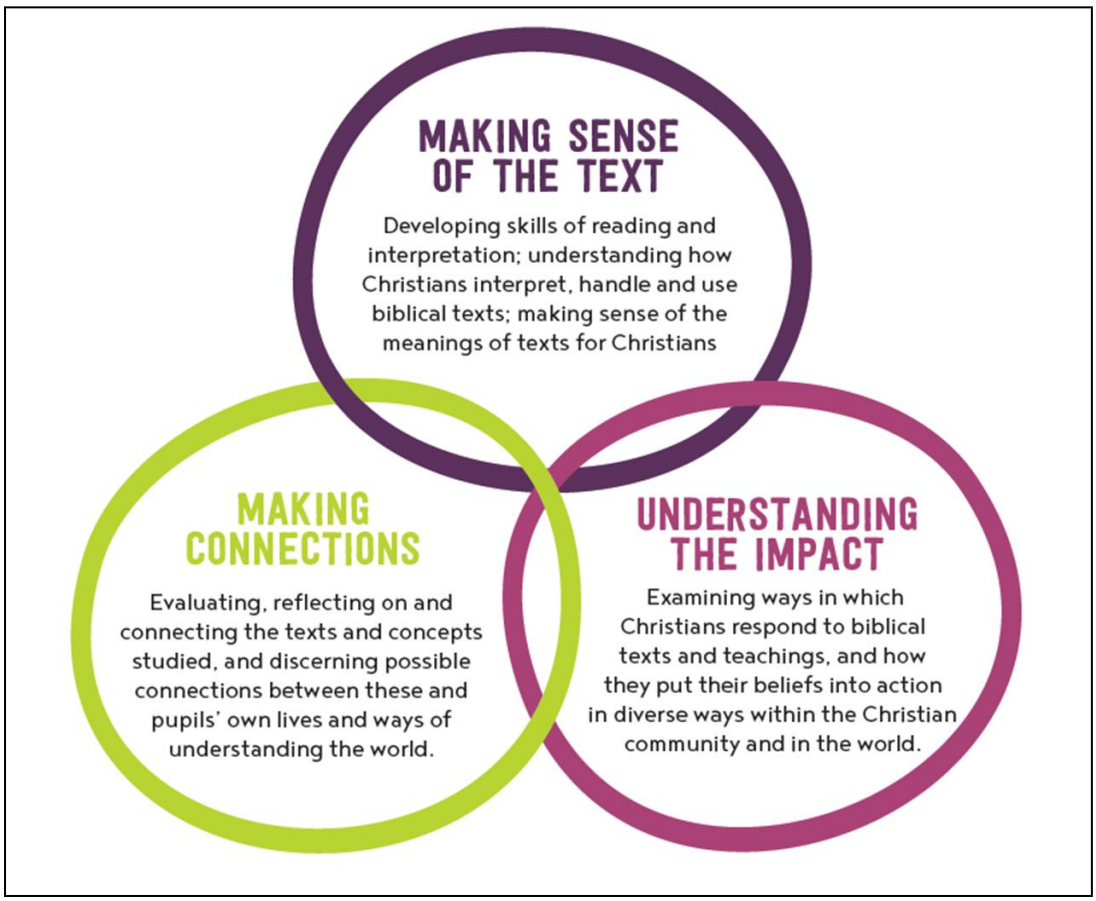
The foundation governors of the school will monitor the effectiveness of this policy through governor visits, learning walks, discussions with pupils, staff and with the subject leader.

The right of withdrawal from R&W

By Brook Valley CE Primary School is an inclusive community but recognise that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from RE&W As R&W is central to the life and identity of our school, we would ask parents to discuss with the head teacher any reasons they might have for doing this.

Parents who decide to withdraw their children from R&W lessons are requested to put this in writing to the Head teacher.

Appendix One : Understanding Christianity Model



Appendix three RE Curriculum			
Year Group	Autumn	Spring	Summer
EYFS	**Christianity** – What makes people special **Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity** – How people celebrate	**Celebrating Differences** – Chinese New Year Holi Festival **Christianity** - Easter	**Learning from stories** – Bible stories and Stories with a moral ending
Y1	**UC:** Creation **Key Question**: Who made the world? **UC** Salvation **Key Question:** Why do Christians celebrate Christmas? **Religion**: Christianity	**UC** **Key Questions**: Why is it always easy for Jesus to show friendship? **UC** Incarnation Why does Easter matter to Christians? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme:** ShowingCommitment **Key Questions**: Is Shabbat important to Jewish children? Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children? **Religion**: Judaism
Y2	**UC:** Creation **Key Questions**: Who made the world? Gospels UC - Salvation What is the good news that Jesus brings? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme:** Commitment **Key Questions**: Does prayer help Muslims with everyday life? **UC -** What do Christians believe God is like? **Religion**: Islam and Christianity	**Theme:** Importance of Prayer for Muslims **Key Questions**: Does going to the Mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging? Does completing hajj make a person a better Muslim? **Religion**: Islam

Y3	**Theme:** Diwali **Key Question**: Would celebrating Diwali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child? **Religion**: Hinduism **UC Concept**: Incarnation **Key Question**: What is Trinity? **Religion**: Christianity	**UC Concept:** Creation & Fall **Key Question**: What do Christians learn from the Creation story? **Religion**: Christianity **UC Concept**: Salvation **Key Question**: Why do Christians call the day Jesusdied 'Good Friday'? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**: Hindu Beliefs **Key Question**: How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything? **Religion**: Hinduism **Theme:** Pilgrimage to the River Ganges **Key Question**: Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu? **Religion**: Hinduism
Y4	**Theme**: Beliefs and Practices **Key Question**: How special is the relationship Jews have with God? **Religion**: Judaism **UC Concept**: People of God **Key Question**: What is it like (for Christians) to follow God? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**:Passover **Key Question**: How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asksthem to do? **Religion**: Judaism **UC Concept**: Easter **Key Question**: Is forgiveness always possible for Christians? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**: Rites of Passage and good works **Key Question**: What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God? **Religion**: Judaism **UC Concept**: Kingdom of God **Key Question**: When Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost? **Religion:** Christianity

Y5	**Theme**: Belief into action **Key Question**: How far would a Sikh go for his/ her religion? **Religion**: Sikhism **UC Concept**: Incarnation **Key Question**: Was Jesus the Messiah? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**: Beliefs and moral values **Key Question**: Are Sikh stories important today? **Religion**: Sikhism **UC Concept**: Salvation **Key Question**: What do Christians believe Jesus did to save Human Beings? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**: Beliefs and moral values **Key Question**: Do beliefs in Karma, Samsara and Moksha help Hindus lead good lives? **Religion**: Hinduism **UC Concept**: God Key Question: What does it mean (for Christians) if God is holy and loving? **Religion**: Christianity
Y6	**Theme**: Beliefs and Practices **Key Question**: What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God? **Religion**: Islam **UC Concept:** Gospel **Key Question**: What would Jesus do? **Religion**: Christianity	**UC Concept**: Creation **Key Question**: Creation and science: conflicting or Complementary? **Religion**: Christianity **UC Concept**: Salvation **Key Question**: What difference does the resurrection make for Christians? **Religion**: Christianity	**Theme**: Beliefs and moral values **Key Question:** Does belief in Akhirah (life after death) help Muslims lead good lives? **Religion**: Islam NB: This enquiry is taught in 2 sections over the term