



Religion and World Views Policy 2025

Policy Date: March 2025

Next review date: March 2027

Working together, Growing together, All to flourish.

At Holsworthy CofE Primary School, our Christian vision underpins all aspects of school life. Religion and Worldviews (RW) plays a central role in enabling pupils to flourish and "live life in all its fullness" (John 10:10). Through the study of Christianity as a living faith and engagement with a range of religious and non-religious worldviews, pupils develop religious literacy, learn to appreciate diversity, and explore questions of meaning, purpose, identity and belief.

This policy is informed by the Diocese of Exeter guidance, the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus 2024-2029, and the Church of England Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education.

Principal Aims

The principal aim of Religion and Worldviews is:

To explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage thoughtfully with questions raised by religion and worldviews, whilst reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Through Religion and Worldviews, we aim to:

- Develop a rich understanding of Christianity as a diverse, global living faith.
- Enable pupils to engage respectfully with a range of religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Encourage curiosity, critical thinking and open-minded enquiry.
- Support pupils in exploring their own beliefs, values and identity.
- Prepare pupils for life in modern Britain and an increasingly diverse world.
- Promote dignity, respect, compassion and courageous advocacy through our Christian vision.

Statutory Requirements

Religion and Worldviews is a statutory subject for all registered pupils.

As a Church of England school, we follow:

- The Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus 2024-2029.
- Guidance from the Diocese of Exeter.
- The Church of England Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education.
- The principles of Understanding Christianity to deepen pupils' understanding of Christian belief and practice.

RW is taught as an academic subject and is distinct from Collective Worship. It is objective, critical and pluralistic, enabling pupils to encounter a range of beliefs and worldviews without promoting any particular viewpoint.

The Importance of Religion and Worldviews in the Curriculum

Religion and Worldviews contributes significantly to pupils' intellectual, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The subject enables pupils to:

- Understand the significance of religion and belief in local, national and global communities.
- Develop respect for diversity and difference.
- Engage with challenging questions about meaning, purpose, truth and values.
- Explore the ways beliefs influence actions and decision-making.
- Build empathy, emotional literacy and understanding of others.
- Develop the confidence to discuss sensitive issues respectfully and thoughtfully.

As a Church of England school, Christianity is at the heart of learning while pupils also study a broad range of religious and non-religious worldviews, fostering understanding, inclusion and respect.

Time Allocation

The school allocates curriculum time in line with the recommendations of the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus 2024-2029.

Recommended allocation:

-EYFS: Learning integrated within Understanding the World alongside dedicated RW experiences.

-Key Stage 1: Approximately 36 hours per year.

-Key Stage 2: Approximately 45 hours per year.

RW may be taught through regular weekly lessons, enquiry days, visits, visitors and cross-curricular opportunities as well as time for reflection or retrieval activities where appropriate.

The Aims of our Religion and Worldviews Curriculum

Through Religion and Worldviews pupils will:

Know and Understand

- Christianity as a living and diverse faith.
- The beliefs, practices and experiences of a range of religious and non-religious worldviews.
- How beliefs influence individuals, communities and societies.

Engage and Reflect

- Ask meaningful questions.
- Explore different perspectives.
- Consider their own ideas and responses.

Apply and Evaluate

- Analyse religious and worldview concepts.
- Evaluate different viewpoints.
- Make informed and reasoned judgements.

Flourish Personally

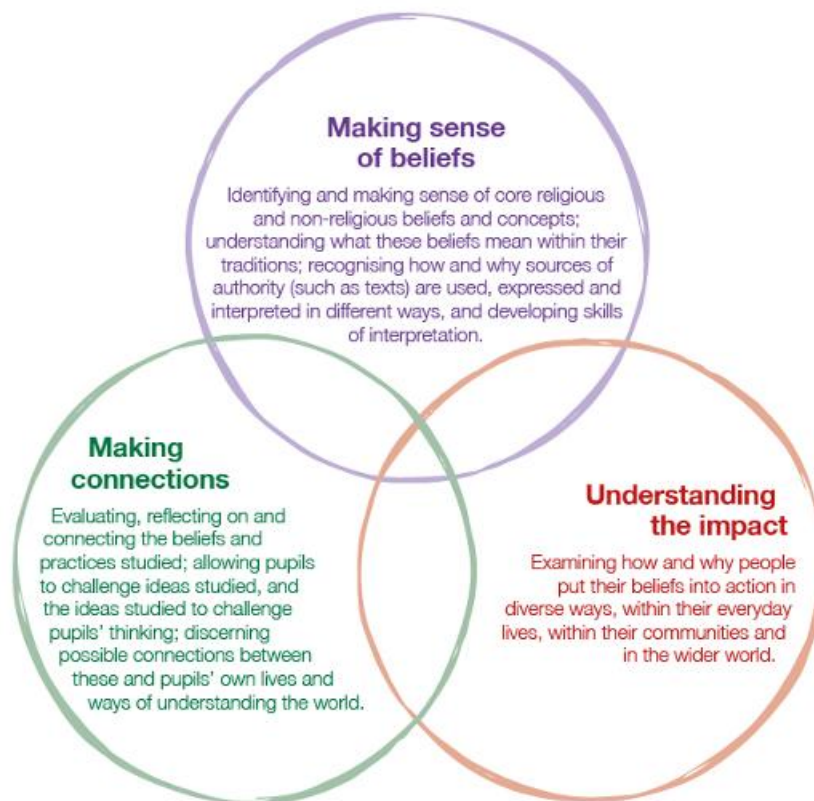
- Develop their own worldview.
- Grow in confidence, empathy and resilience.
- Develop their spirituality
- Learn to live well together in diverse communities.

The Approach

The school adopts the Religion and Worldviews approach outlined within the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus 2024-2029.

The teaching and Learning Approach

Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus for RE 2019–2024



Teaching is:

- Enquiry-based.
- Oracy based.
- Knowledge-rich.
- Inclusive.
- Reflective.
- Academically rigorous.

Pupils engage with:

- Theology
- Exploring beliefs, texts and concepts.
- Philosophy
- Considering questions about meaning, truth, ethics and existence.
- Human and Social Sciences
- Investigating how beliefs are lived and experienced by individuals and communities.

Christianity is taught in every year group and forms the majority study, while pupils also learn about other religious traditions and non-religious worldviews

Contribution of Religion and Worldviews to the Wider Curriculum

Religion and Worldviews makes a valuable contribution to:

- Spiritual Development, by exploring beliefs, values, meaning and purpose.
- Moral Development, by considering ethical issues and moral decision-making.
- Social Development, by developing understanding of diverse communities and relationships.
- Cultural Development, by promoting awareness and appreciation of religious and cultural diversity.
- Personal Development by helping pupils develop confidence, resilience, identity and a sense of belonging.

-British Values, by supporting:

- Mutual respect
- Acceptance of difference Cultures and Religions (tolerance)
- Individual liberty
- Democracy
- Rule of law



Rights of Withdrawal

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child wholly or partly from Religion and Worldviews lessons.

Parents wishing to exercise this right should discuss their concerns with the Headteacher and RW lead. The school will respect parental wishes and make suitable arrangements for pupils who are withdrawn.

Staff may also exercise their right to withdraw from teaching Religion and Worldviews in accordance with current legislation.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner should statutory guidance, diocesan guidance, or curriculum requirements change.