



The Quercus Federation

## Collective Worship Policy

# Hurst Green Church of England Primary School and Nursery

This policy was adopted on June 2020

This policy is due for review on June 2021

Signed (Chair of Governors)

Signed (Head of School)

Date:



Hurst Green Church of England Primary School & Nursery

## Distinctive Christian Values



*Living, Loving and Learning with God.*



## **Introduction**

At Hurst Green CE Primary School and Nursery we are committed to valuing and nurturing each child as an individual who will achieve their best and develop an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. Our vision is for the children in our school to grow into responsible, caring and fulfilled adults who actively and positively contribute to the society in which they live. We are committed to raising standards, values and self-esteem for all those involved with our school through cultivating a secure, yet exciting environment that is positive, supportive, stimulating and enriching.

As a Church of England Primary School we see our RE lessons as an important part of school life. Our RE policy fulfils the statutory requirements common to all schools according to the 1988 Education Reform Act (and consolidated in the 1996 Education Act). It also fulfils the Diocesan requirements for a voluntary controlled church school which states that worship will be Christian in content with an Anglican emphasise.

## **Aims**

Religious education enables children to investigate and reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people. At Hurst Green CE Primary School we develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths, and we address the fundamental questions in life. We enable children to develop a sound knowledge not only of Christianity but also of other world religions, especially those that are the main faiths of children within our school. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We help the children learn from religions as well as about religions.

## **The Law**

Religious education is statutory for all registered pupils on the school roll. In reception classes RE should be taught in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus. Whilst religious education is not a statutory requirement for children in the Foundation Stage, it can however form a valuable part of the educational experience of children throughout the key stage.

## **The RE Curriculum**

Each class teacher has the responsibility of teaching rich and inquisitive RE lessons. This may be either regular provision once a week, or through more flexible provision, when more time can be allocated in one week, term or year than in another, as long as the Programme of study required by the Agreed Syllabus is covered. At Hurst Green CE Primary School we use 'Understanding Christianity' written by the Diocese of Chichester and recommended by East Sussex. This resource enables pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and as a religion that has most shaped British culture and heritage. This resource is for EYFS to Upper Key Stage 2 and features throughout our scheme of work.



## **Delivering RE**

Teaching methods are stimulating and engaging, providing all students with access to religious education. Consideration is paid to different learning styles and the differing abilities of students so that all students make progress in their learning. A range of teaching and learning strategies which are effective for inclusive teaching of religious education include:

- Visits to places of worship, museums or art galleries
- The use of representatives from religious traditions as visitors to the class
- The use of artefacts, big books, posters, videos, artwork
- The use of picture or word cards for matching, classifying, prioritising, sequencing, etc
- The use of art and craft to enable students to express their ideas
- The use of drama, role play, gesture or dance
- The use of music to create an atmosphere or for expression of ideas and emotions
- The use of information and communication technology, such as digital cameras, interactive whiteboards, websites, etc.

## **Special Services and Visitors**

We value our links with the staff and congregation of Holy Trinity Church. We hold our Harvest, Christmas, and Easter services in church. The vicar and the non-stipendiary ministers of Holy Trinity Church regularly lead worship and always attend our services in the church. Where possible we also invite other members of the community in to lead RE lessons.

## **Inclusion and withdrawal**

Collective worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have a legal right to withdraw their children from all or part of worship. Before making the decision to exercise that right parents /carers are encouraged to discuss the issues with the principal. Staff also have the right to withdraw on grounds of conscience but we hope that all staff will feel able to support the Christian ethos of the school by participating in collective worship.

## **Assessment and monitoring**

Assessment in RE is in line with the schools assessment policy. It is essential to keep in mind that assessment in RE is about recognising children's achievements in RE in the broadest sense. It is about giving feedback and about using information to plan the next steps in learning.

## **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school