



## St. Mark's C.E. Primary School

Talbot Village, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4JA

Headteacher: Andrew Bright

Friday 24 October 2025

### **The development of our RE (Religious Education) curriculum and the teaching of World Views**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently made some changes to our Religious Education (RE) curriculum, to include a greater focus on the teaching of World Views, including Humanism and using materials from the Emmanuel Project. A summary of the Emmanuel Project can be found [here](#).

These changes are on the advice of Salisbury Diocese and have been made in consultation with our Diocesan Education Advisers to ensure that we are compliant with the [Statement of Entitlement](#).

As a Church of England primary school, we are committed to maintaining our Christian foundation and ethos. It is important to clarify that all schools in England, including Church of England schools, have a statutory duty to teach a broad and balanced RE curriculum that includes learning about different religions and World Views.

The purpose of this is educational, not evangelical. We teach about different religions (like Islam, Judaism or Hinduism) and non-religious World Views (like Humanism) to help children understand the diverse world they live in, not to encourage them to adopt these beliefs. This is in line with fundamental British Values of tolerance and respect, so that children understand the world they live in and the views of others.

Our approach ensures that:

- Children understand that different people hold different beliefs
- The distinction between learning about a religion and believing in it is made clear
- Our Christian foundation remains central to our school's identity and daily life
- Children have the opportunity to learn about religion and World Views from guest speakers

We understand the importance of ensuring that RE teaching is delivered with sensitivity and accuracy. Our teachers are trained to use specific language that makes this distinction clear, such as:

- "*Christians believe...*", "*Muslims believe...*" or "*Hindus believe...*"
- Linked to our second SIAMS target for development, teachers may also use phrases like "*Some Christians believe...*", "*Some Muslims believe...*" or "*Some people think...*" to ensure pupils are aware of the diversity of practices within religions and worldwide views.

We also regularly remind children that learning about something doesn't mean we believe it ourselves.

We were really pleased that our SIAMS inspection report noted strengths in our teaching of RE and World Views:

- *Teaching in religious education (RE) is strong. As a result of the wide range of different activities within RE, pupils are fully engaged and inspired by their learning.*
- *The recently reviewed RE curriculum, and the time given to it overall, ensures that it continues to be effective in meeting the needs of the pupils. It includes learning about world religions and non-religious world views. Pupils develop the skills to discuss and debate with their peers and compare different texts across their RE learning. The introduction of a range of high-quality resources, ensures that RE continues to have high priority. The subject is well led and its place within the curriculum reflects the Christian distinctiveness of a church school. High quality training and professional development for staff is provided by leaders and the Diocese. Pupils thrive as a result of the high standard of RE provision. They demonstrate a good understanding of religions other than Christianity and worldviews, which is enhanced by visitors to the school. However, pupils have less clarity about the wide spectrum of practices within all faiths.*
- *As a result of high quality RE provision, pupils are enthusiastic learners. Through careful planning and detailed assessment, RE provision is skilfully adapted and gives pupils small precise steps. This enables them to know how to be successful and to flourish. However, not all staff possess a clear understanding of the moderation of assessment. Pupils enjoy the wide range of activities that are included in their RE learning and this has a positive impact on their engagement.*

More information about our curriculum and the units we teach in each year group is available on our website, linked below:

- [Information about the whole school curriculum and approach to RE teaching](#)
- [Termly overviews of RE topics](#)

If you have any queries regarding any of the content, please speak to your child's Class Teacher, Mrs Wilson (RE Coordinator) or me, as Headteacher and Collective Worship Coordinator.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Bright  
Headteacher