



Religious Education Policy

Approved by:	Deputy Headteacher
School Lead:	Subject Lead
Date:	November 2025
Next review due by:	Annually
Version number:	2025.1
Status:	Management
Where published:	Staff Team Documents \ Policies \ Website

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Contents

1.0	Rationale	4
2.0	Legal Framework	4
3.0	Aims of RE	4
4.0	Curriculum Provision	4
5.0	Teaching and Learning	4
6.0	Assessment.....	4
7.0	Right of Withdrawal	4
8.0	Roles and Responsibilities	5
9.0	Monitoring and Review	5

1.0 Rationale

Religious Education (RE) is a statutory requirement for all pupils in state-funded schools in England. It plays a vital role in developing pupils' understanding of religious and non-religious worldviews, fostering respect, tolerance, and critical thinking in a diverse society. At CHS, RE is taught as 'Religion and Philosophy' (RP). We believe in introducing students to all faiths and highlighting key events from the faith calendars via TV screens, assemblies and debate seminars.

2.0 Legal Framework

This policy is informed by:

- The Education Act 1996 and School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- DfE non-statutory guidance (2010) for local-authority-maintained schools
- Funding agreements for academies and free schools
- The National Content Standard for Religious Education (RE Council, 2023)
- The Agreed Syllabus for Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (RE-Focus 2023-28)

3.0 Aims of RE

Religion & Philosophy at Corfe Hills School aims to:

- Develop students' knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious worldviews
- Develop skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation
- Enable students to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes in preparation for adult life in a modern pluralist society
- Promote a 'religious literacy', that will enable students to be critical observers of the effect religion has had on humanity
- Encourage engagement with challenging questions about meaning, purpose, ethics, and identity

4.0 Curriculum Provision

- Religion & Philosophy (RP) is taught for one hour a week at KS3 and Religious Studies (RS) forms part of our examined courses offer at KS4 (GCSE) and KS5 (A-Level).
- Core RE entitlement, known as Core RP, for both KS4 and 5, is addressed through a series of drop-down days held at whole-cohort level in the Main Hall, and given additional status by CHS through delivery via an external speaker who works closely with the RP Subject Leader.
- The curriculum reflects that the religious traditions in Great Britain are mainly Christian, while also including other principal religions and non-religious worldviews.
- Elements of assemblies and the tutor programme raise issues and allow for faith-based discussions that further contribute to the RP Core Entitlement
- Moral and ethical debates, some taken from religious teachings form the bedrock of our 'Talk Tuesday' sixth form sessions, and further contribute to the RP Core Entitlement

5.0 Teaching and Learning

- RP is delivered by qualified teachers with subject-specific training.
- Lessons are inclusive, respectful, and academically rigorous.
- A variety of teaching methods are used, including discussion, debate, research, and visits to places of worship.

6.0 Assessment

- Pupils' progress in RP is assessed in line with whole-school assessment policies.
- Assessment focuses on knowledge, understanding, and critical engagement with religious and philosophical ideas.

7.0 Right of Withdrawal

- Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from all or part of RP lessons (Y9 RP or KS4/5 Core Entitlement provision)
- The school will discuss any withdrawal requests with parents to ensure understanding of the curriculum and implications.

8.0 Roles and Responsibilities

- The RP Subject Leader oversees curriculum planning, teaching quality, and staff development.
- The Headteacher ensures statutory compliance and supports the provision of high-quality RP.
- The Local School Committee monitors RP provision and supports strategic development.

9.0 Monitoring and Review

- Feedback from pupils, staff, and parents informs ongoing curriculum development.
- This policy is reviewed annually by the RP Subject Leader and Senior Leadership Team.