



Trinity St. Peter's

Church of England Primary School

where children shine

# **Multicultural & Multi-faith Policy**

## **Multicultural definition:**

***Where people of different faiths, beliefs, languages and countries come together as one.***

## **Purpose of Study**

At Trinity St. Peter's, our vision is that every child is a star and that it is the school's responsibility to work in partnership with all members of the local and wider community to provide each child with the skills and Christian values they need to shine in the real world. We want all our children to enjoy their learning journey, to achieve their full potential and to become caring global citizens of the world with the motivation and confidence to be the best they can be.

At Trinity St. Peter's, we take pride in the teachings of our unique school values that underpin all learning. We promote the British fundamental values where British law, democracy and a mutual respect and tolerance for those of other faiths, cultures and beliefs is embedded through all areas of the curriculum. *"It is intended that the curriculum should reflect the cultural diversity to which pupils belong and of which they will become adult members". (D.E.S circular 5/89).* Pupils are always encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

The Christian values of the school are central to its life and ethos, and are vital to the realisation of our vision. There is a strong recognition of belonging to a community, with the need to both give and receive. We emphasize the Christian value of Koinonia, that is, community. The school respects ethnic, cultural and religious diversity, and actively promotes good personal relations.

## **Aims**

We appreciate and value the importance of multi-cultural and multi-faith awareness within the curriculum. Teachers actively seek to provide opportunities provided by the broad and rich curriculum, for asking and answering questions that arise from different religious perspectives. This will prepare our pupils for the diversity of religious faiths and beliefs they will encounter in multi-cultural Britain and the wider world. At Trinity St. Peter's we ensure that multi-cultural and multi-faith education is included where natural links in the curriculum occur and within relevant areas of study.

The teaching of Religious Education ensures multi-faith education is deeply explored from a young age within both the planning of the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education Syllabus for RE, 'Questful RE' and the monthly Collective Worship values. Each year group specifically links their monthly Collective Worship value focus to another faith and such multi-faith links are given their own section within planning proformas and it is expected that these inform at least one Collective Worship session per month.

In addition to this, each term, a non-Christian faith forms a whole school, week long focus within RE. Here the children are able to make further links and are encouraged to explore contrasts and similarities between religions, beliefs and cultural differences. These valuable connections provide children with resources and information that reflect the nature of today's society. Teachers are also expected to seek out and incorporate ways to explore other faiths' perspectives on matters of poverty, inequality, charity and justice in line with the schools' ongoing courageous advocacy work.

Religious Education at Trinity St. Peter's engenders respect and tolerance of the personhood of others through a thorough understanding of the school value of 'nurture' and 'kindness' – *'love your neighbour as yourself' Mark 12*. This reinforces children's understanding of the school's value 'service.' Children ask 'What Would Jesus Do?'. This provides a foundation by which children can make their own informed judgements and ensures the mission statement is practiced throughout the school.

Multicultural and multi-faith education is further developed through the school's unique 4C questioning model. This ensures a balance between encouraging pupils to express their own ideas through facilitated discussion and questioning as well as recording what they have learned through writing and explanation.

## **Teaching, Learning and Organisation**

Pupils are provided with experience of other cultures where possible across the curriculum. Other religions are taught with the following principles in mind:

- The experiences, ideas and views that pupils bring from home and faith communities are always listened to, and the pupil respected;
- Artefacts, clothing and foods from other faiths and cultures will be used as appropriate resources;
- Aspects from multi-faith studies will be displayed in each classroom alongside examples of work from Christianity based units
- Multi-faith festivals and celebrations are recognised;
- Children with different religious affiliations and values will be respected.

Multi-faith education covers many of the British Fundamental Values as well as objectives to be covered through the teaching of SMSC, PSHE and Citizenship. (See Collective Worship Policy, Global Citizenship Policy and the PSHE and Citizenship Policy).

Teaching pupils to fully respect, appreciate and have an understanding of the beliefs of other cultures and peoples remains paramount in preparing our pupils at Trinity St. Peter's for the multi-cultural world in which we live today.

Revised and adopted by the Governing Body - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Review Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019