

Welburn Hall School



Religious Education and Collective Worship Policy

Policy adopted: 2017

Review Period: Annual

Next review Due: September 2027

Date: September 2025

Approved by Governors:

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Aim

Religious Education in Welburn School aims to help learners to develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions and beliefs represented in the UK and how they relate to behaviour, cultural attitudes and spiritual and moral values. We aim by sensitive, and critical reflection on these and by encounter with local religious groups and leaders, to help learners develop their own beliefs and spirituality and to have respect for those whose beliefs differ from their own.

Objectives

Drawing on the framework provided by the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus
The RE teaching will seek to

- promote the spiritual growth and development of learners.
- encourage learners to think/reflect on their own views and values in relation to the themes and topics studied in the RE curriculum.
- provides opportunities for learners to learn about and from other religions.
- contribute to our school's spiritual, moral and social teaching.
- help to build up a community where everyone develops to their full potential in a climate of mutual respect and personal responsibility, where everyone's contribution is valued irrespective of race, gender, religion or agnosticism or ability.
- Enable learners to reflect on their own experiences and develop a personal response, enabling learners to better understand their own feelings and emotions and to reflect and learn from them.
- Enable learners to begin to appreciate the value of human relationships and to consider the feelings of others.
- develop positive personal behaviour- beginning to understand right and wrong.
- Help learners to appreciate the diversity and richness of their and those of others' social, cultural and spiritual traditions.

School Context and Organisation

As the ideas in the NY SACRE RE syllabus are hierarchical and the learners at Welburn Hall are taught through three pathways, the decision has been made to focus on the 4-7 and early parts of the KS2 themes. Learners are grouped according to their level of need, and the curriculum is adapted to include all. Whilst the school follows the same themes at the

same time, learners are supported to experience the curriculum in different ways depending on the pathway they on.

Visitors and visits.

Welburn Hall School values the experience of those outside of our tight-knit community and therefore invite visitors to enhance the delivery of all subjects including RE.

Collapsed curriculum days

Relevant professionals are invited to add a different dimension. Encountering new people from outside school with different views on literature, creativity and expressive arts develops learners' social skills and religious and cultural awareness. Whole school experiences like these collapsed curriculum days also promote team building skills (groups are made up of children from different classes which provide opportunities for learners to exercise leadership and responsibility).

Harvest festival/Christingle celebrations in local churches and in school foster a sense of community with the whole school as college also takes part, together with parents and representatives from the local community.

Collective Worship

Our spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) focus is further enhanced through our assembly programme, which provides opportunities for subjects not included in the RE curriculum to be addressed. In Collective Worship we also promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Learners are also given time to contemplate within the classroom situation either individually or as a class group.

Aims for Collective worship

The aims of collective worship are
to provide a space where learners together can find a sense of awe and wonder in the natural world and human achievement.

to express thanksgiving and celebrate that which is of worth in the natural world, and human life inside and outside school.

to reflect on and express their own response to the experience, challenges and questions of living as individuals in community.

to enable learners to value diversity and learn to respect the beliefs of others.

Collective worship will be broadly Christian in character drawing on material and responses mainly from the Christian faith but used in a way that is

inclusive and respectful of other traditions. Material from other traditions and religions may also be used.

Legal Framework

Every learner should attend collective worship (unless withdrawn by their parents or carers) so far as is practicable

Teachers and learners have a right to withdraw from collective worship and requests should be made in writing to the headteacher.

Learners who withdraw are supervised in a separate space.

Arrangements for Collective Worship

Collective worship takes place in whole school assemblies; on Fridays led by the Headteacher and on other days it may be led by other members of SLT or class teachers. Our local vicar/parish reader leads weekly assemblies on Wednesdays.

Our assistant headteachers produce an SMSC calendar for our learners to focus on, which has links to major festivals, significant days and events. Representatives of local faith groups and organizations may be invited to contribute.

Original policy written November 2017

Policy last reviewed and adapted September 2025