



## Statement of Intent for Religious Education

### Our School Vision

#### Nurture, Grow, Flourish

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord... “plans to give you HOPE and a FUTURE.”*

**Jeremiah 29:11**

We are committed to creating a positive, safe and nurturing Christian environment, where all members of the school and wider community will be respected and valued.

Within God’s love, we will support and encourage one another to grow and flourish...  
to be the very best we can be.

### Intent

*Why do we teach this? Why do we teach it in the way we do?*

As a Church of England School, the Christian faith is the foundations of everything that we do at Forest & Sandridge. In all learning and life experiences, we aim to fulfil our school vision (as above). We promote an environment where all children feel known, accepted, and valued as individuals, within a caring community, where our Christian faith affects not only what we teach, but also how we teach.

We believe that it is fundamental for the children to belong to a safe and nurturing community, founded on strong Christian values where children will develop an array of skills that will enable them to make their own positive contribution to our global society.

Our aims for all the children in RE are:

- To provoke challenging questions about the ultimate meaning of life, beliefs about God, the nature of reality and morality.
- To develop pupils’ knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal world religions, religious traditions and world-views, which offer answers to ultimate questions.
- To encourage pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging, in order to flourish within communities, as responsible citizens in society and global communities.
- To teach pupils to develop respect for others and their beliefs and helps to challenge prejudice.
- To prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society encouraging empathy, generosity and compassion.

### Implementation

*What do we teach? What does this look like?*

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be.

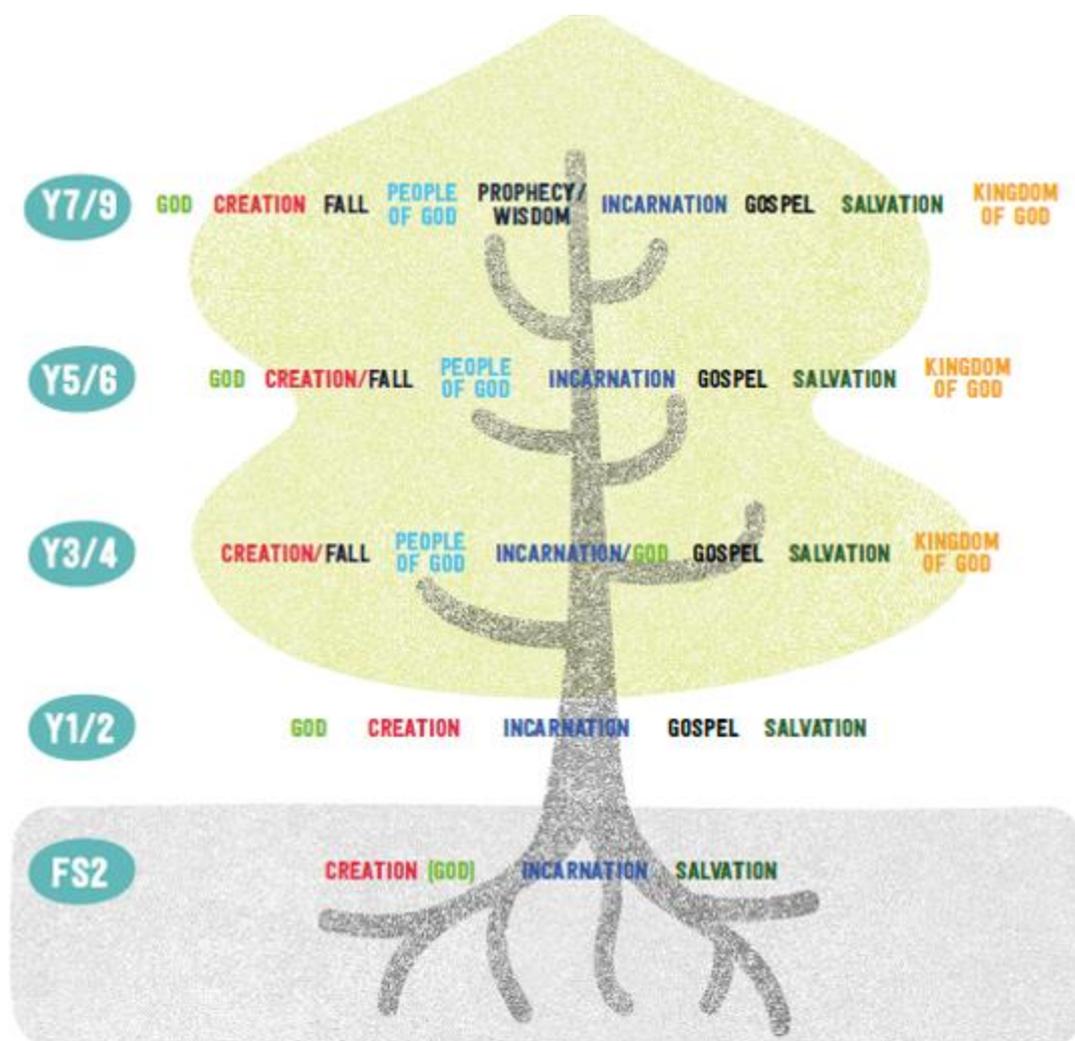
The statement of entitlements lays out the entitlement of all children to receive a high quality Religious Education which supports them in all aspects of their learning.

“Religious education in a Church school should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live well together” (Statement of Entitlement)

The statement lays out the details of coverage of the RE curriculum in church schools. We ensure that we fully meet the requirement of the statement of entitlement for Church schools.

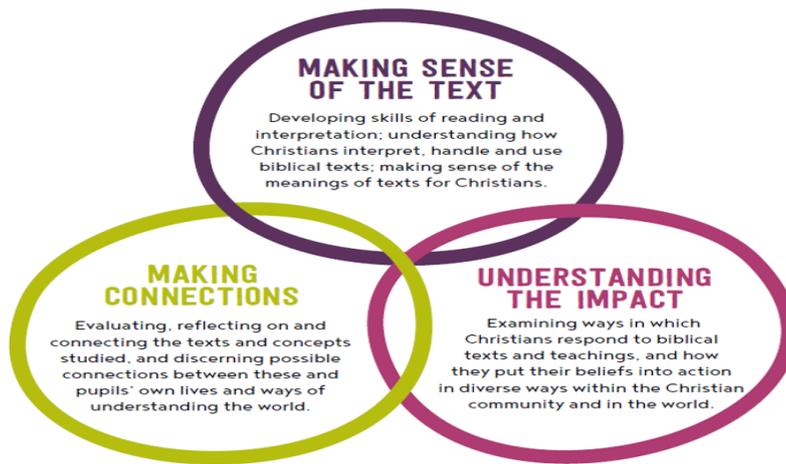
Our RE teaching is informed by two different teaching schemes; Understanding Christianity and Discovery RE. By using these schemes alongside each other, we are ensuring children are given the opportunity to become religiously literate.

Understanding Christianity is based upon seven core Christian concepts. Children will explore the different concepts in a range of inspiring activities as they move through the school, starting in Foundation Stage and developing a great depth of understanding by the time they reach Year 6.



Understanding Christianity believes that not only should children show an understanding of the religious text and teachings but they should also demonstrate a deepened and more thoughtful approach to their

learning and how this influences day to day life. Therefore is based upon a three step enquiry model of teaching.



Discovery RE is used alongside Understanding Christianity to ensure that children are given opportunities to explore a wide range of different religions throughout their time in Primary School. It is through using these two schemes alongside each other that we are providing children with a holistic and balanced RE curriculum.

We use a variety of teaching methods including art, music, discussion, the development of thinking skills, drama, the use of artefacts, pictures, stories, and the use of reflection.

### **Impact**

*What will this look like? By the time children leave our school they will:*

- Ask and offer possible answers to challenging questions about the meaning of life, beliefs, nature of reality and morality.
- Have a secure understanding and knowledge of the religions studied and be confident to answer ultimate questions.
- Have the ability to ask significant and reflective questions about religion and demonstrate a good understanding of issues relating to the nature, truth and value of religion.
- Have a sense of self, identity and belonging to flourish within the community and be responsible citizens.
- Show respect, tolerance and understanding of all religions and beliefs.
- Have a strong understanding of how the beliefs, values, practices and ways of life within any religion come together.
- The ability to link the study of religion and belief to personal reflections on meaning and purpose.
- The ability to exemplify the School's Christian values in all aspects of life that are rooted in the teachings of the Bible.