


Laying the Foundations for Life Within a Christian Context		
Responsible Post	Headteacher	
Responsible Committee	Curriculum and Standards	
Review Schedule	3 Years	
Review Date	November 2023	
Next Review Due	November 2026	
Changed	Yes	

Rationale

As an Anglican Church School, we aim to lay the Foundations for Life within a Christian context. This guidance outlines how we preserve and promote the distinctive Christian character of our school together with the parish clergy, foundation governors and the parish church.

Delivery

We place a strong emphasis on

- developing children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural education through all aspects of school life: the curriculum, worship, the development of relationships, care for the environment, respect for all people.
- promoting spiritual development, fully recognizing the opportunities for this in every aspect of education and in the daily act of worship.
- ensuring good moral development which builds character, enabling each child to have the courage to do what is right and act responsibly.
- providing opportunities to develop socially, encourage children to show compassion and understanding of others, encourages reconciliation and forgiveness in the face of conflict.
- promoting cultural development.
- promoting good mental and physical development – encouraging the aspiration to do everything as well as possible.
- providing a Christian education - being explicit not only about the values underpinning it.
- Within the daily act of worship introducing some common Anglican liturgical phrases and prayers. Liaising with the local vicar to ensure some common hymns and worship songs.

Love – ‘God is love.’ (1 John 4:16)

Trust - I will say of the LORD, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.’ Psalm 91:2

Truth – ‘I am the way, the truth and the life.’ (John 14:6)

but also about the beliefs in the nature of God that give rise to those values.

(God the Father - source of all being and life, who created the universe and appointed us as stewards of his creation.

God the Son, Jesus Christ - his redeeming life, his teaching about sin, repentance, forgiveness and love, his death and resurrection.

God the Holy Spirit (Sustainer) who lives in God's people and makes Christ known in the world.)

- using displays, accommodation and resources to promote the Christian nature of the school and aid spiritual reflection, prayer and worship. E.g each class has a special reflection area.
- ensuring the importance of Religious Education within the curriculum.
- developing strong links with the local clergy, church and diocese.
- playing our part in the Church's mission to the nation.
- emphasizing our Anglican (Church of England) character and practice in worship: using the Bible and other stories from the Christian tradition as source material for inspiration and learning; reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship e.g. bread, wine, chalice, cross; observing the cycle of the Anglican Church Year – e.g. Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity, Harvest and All Saints' Day; using Christian prayers e.g. The Lord's Prayer and the Grace.
- providing all staff and children with opportunities to lead and take part in worship together.
- providing opportunities to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of Christian worship.
- highlighting the need to promote and support the Christian ethos when recruiting, ensuring induction procedures explain to all new staff the importance of the Anglican character of the school.
- expressing, in the school information booklet, the importance of the Christian faith as a fundamental and guiding principle to the life of the school.
- the Headteacher and Governing Body ensuring that the Anglican character of the school is sustained, developed, reviewed and evaluated, specifically
 - preserving and developing the Christian character of the school
 - ensuring that all are aware of the Anglican foundation of the school
 - ensuring that strong links with the Christian church beyond the school are sustained and developed
 - making provision for the Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural development of pupils throughout the curriculum
 - ensuring that there is space for the spiritual development of pupils and staff
 - ensuring that R.E has a high status, allocated adequate time and that it is well taught
 - ensuring that worship is at the heart of the school's life, supporting and affirming the work of the church; the parish clergy are facilitated and encouraged.

Monitoring and evaluation

- The policy will be reviewed as part of the schools monitoring cycle every three years. The Head teacher and Foundation governors have responsibility for monitoring this policy.

Appendix 1

Key Christian Concepts

- God
- Creation
- Sin
- Evil
- Resurrection / Salvation
- Holy Spirit / Pentecost
- Trinity
- Community
- Service to Others
- Prayer

General Christian Concepts, Ideas and Values

Holiness	Truth	Symbol
Humility	Spirituality	Healing
Sacredness	Morality	Belief
Peace	Faith	Unity
Hope	Community	Worship
Authority	Equality	Respect
Love	Justice	Hope
Charity	Patience	Co-operation
Tolerance	Stewardship	Friendship
Forgiveness	Reconciliation	Angel
Compassion	Understanding	Sacrifice
Bravery	Wisdom	Greatness
Temptation	Support	Commitment
Acceptance		

The Church Year

Harvest, Annunciation, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Candlemas, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Day, Ascension, Pentecost, Trinity