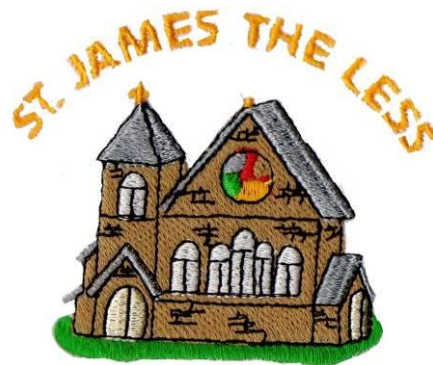
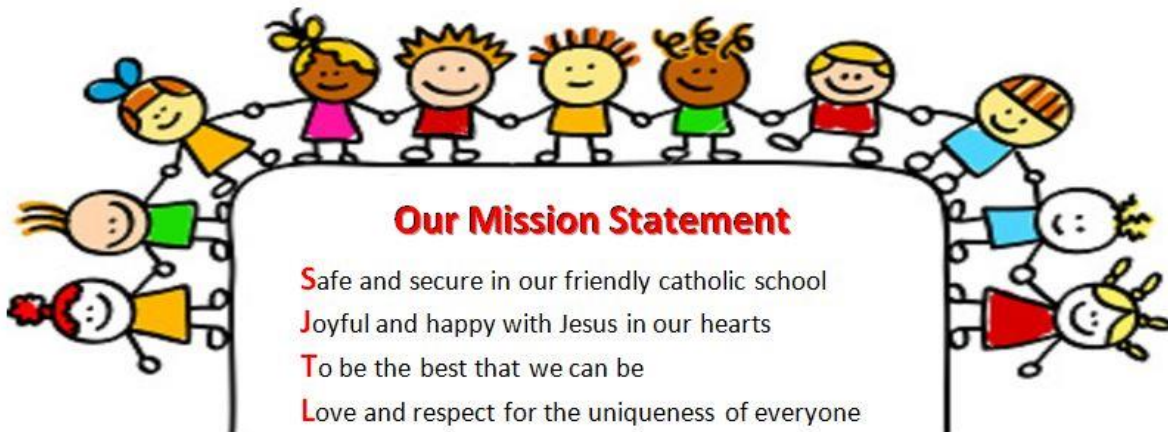


# St James the Less RC Primary School



## RE Policy Updated Summer 2022



### **Our Mission Statement**

- S**afe and secure in our friendly catholic school
- J**oyful and happy with Jesus in our hearts
- T**o be the best that we can be
- L**ove and respect for the uniqueness of everyone

## **1. Philosophy**

- 1.1** Religious Education in our school is at the heart of developing the whole child, by encouraging spiritual and religious development, and developing the ability to choose, reflect and make judgements.

As a Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic School, St James the Less views Religious Education as a crucial expression of its Mission Statement which provides the context for, and helps to shape the whole curriculum. R E will enable us to offer living experience of faith in its practical expression. The beliefs and values communicated through R E should inspire and unify every aspect of school life. This is what identifies St James the Less with its distinctive Catholic nature.

### **1.2 Aims**

The aims of RE at St James the Less are:

- to inspire the whole child through a balanced curriculum which sees God as the centre of the learning process;
- to help the pupils to acknowledge that we are commanded to love God and to love one another, by encouraging the development of meaningful relationships in our school;
- to foster and deepen the children's faith and to assist the children to nourish their faith through prayer, liturgy and the sacraments;
- to provide a curriculum that will educate the whole child in an environment which encourages growth in understanding, and the acquisition of skills, attitudes and values;
- to encourage respect for peoples of other faiths and a willingness to recognise goodness wherever it exists;
- to promote a community where Roman Catholic values are active, communicated and practiced.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The children should, at their appropriate level of ability and experience:

- begin to understand the concept of God as Creator, Provider and Carer;
- acknowledge Jesus Christ as Son of God and Saviour;
- recognise the continuing work of salvation through the community of the Church guided by the Holy Spirit;
- examine the implications of the mutual responsibility of human beings for one another, both as individuals and communities, and the duty of all people to care for the whole of Creation;
- study and analyse Scriptural texts so that through them they may develop a closer relationship with God, and a greater understanding of God's presence in the whole of life;
- deepen their understanding of the place of liturgical worship in the life of the Church community by instruction, preparation, participation and reflection upon

those aspects of the liturgy appropriate to their stage of chronological and spiritual development.

## **2 Home/School/Parish Links**

A determined effort is made to maintain strong and close links between home, school and parish.

A weekly Mass or service is offered in school. The Mass, led by different classes, is the Parish Mass of the Day. Parents/carers and parishioners are invited to join the children in the Masses and prayer services.

Preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion takes place in both school and parish. Our parish priest regularly visits the Sacramental group in school and leads the Sacramental Celebrations and Parents' Meetings in church. In school, the Sacramental Group in Year 3, is prepared under the guidance of the class teacher with support from staff in school.

## **3 Planning**

The main resources used to plan RE are the Salford Diocesan Programme 'Come and See' and 'Caritas in Action'. Other resources e.g. 'Building the Kingdom' are used to supplement the scheme.

## **4 In-service Training**

Staff attend relevant courses as appropriate.

## **5 Charity Appeals**

We are a caring school, mindful of our duties and responsibilities towards people both at home and abroad who are less well off than ourselves. The school has three main charities each year: the Salford Diocesan Caritas Appeal, the Rossendale Hospice Appeal and CAFOD. We also support lesser known 'one-off' deserving causes and are very proud of our reputation for pupil and parent generosity in giving to these worthy causes over a period of many years.

## **6 Special Educational Needs**

Implicit on the Religious Education programme is that all work planned takes into consideration the needs of our own pupils, whatever their abilities. They are all openly encouraged to take an active involvement in the Religious and Spiritual life of the school.

## **7 Assessment**

The 5 Ws are used as a tool for review, evaluation and celebration in our school. All years use the resources and guidelines from Salford and other dioceses to assess attainment in RE. Class work is assessed throughout the year and focused assessments are completed termly. The standards are recorded for each

child on the spreadsheet on the school server and passed on to the next teacher at the end of the year.

A portfolio of HA, MA and LA completed assessments is kept by the RE Subject Leader. The school's marking policy is applied to written work in RE.

Summer 2022