



# Religion & World Views Policy

## Version Control

Version	Date	Description
1	Spring Term 2026	New Policy

Date: Spring Term 2026  
Review: Spring Term 2028

## Christian Vision at Alder Grove



Our vision for Alder Grove School is about the importance of roots. Just as a tree cannot grow to be healthy and strong without good roots, so we believe that children need the right conditions to grow and flourish.

Our school community at Alder Grove is rooted in the following values:

**Kindness**

**Service**

**Truthfulness**

**Forgiveness**

**Courage**

**Perseverance**

We see these values in the life of Jesus, and Christians choose to live their lives rooted in him. At Alder Grove, we want to help all our children, whatever their faith background, to grow deep roots which will enable them and the whole community to be strong and healthy learners, and to care for each other.

As we live out these values, we help each other to flourish and grow. Our vision is not just about individuals but about a whole community, so we emphasise the importance of serving each other, and treating each other as we would like to be treated, and we also believe in the importance of caring for the world around us.

When the roots are healthy, we will see fruit growing:

*'They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season'* (Psalm 1.3).

The right roots will allow our children to fulfil their potential in all areas of life.

**Aims:**

Religion & World Views at Alder Grove aims to enable all children to develop religious literacy by engaging deeply with Christianity and a range of world faiths and worldviews. Through high-quality teaching, pupils are supported to explore big questions about life, meaning and purpose, and to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to understand and respect diverse beliefs. Our aim is to nurture each child's personal development and spirituality so that they grow in wisdom, compassion and curiosity, learning to live well together in our school, our community and the wider world.

**Description:**

Religion & World Views is central to the Christian vision of our school and plays a vital role in shaping our ethos, values and daily life. Rooted in the Church of England's commitment to educating for 'life in all its fullness', Religion & World Views provides a safe, inclusive environment where pupils can explore Christianity as a living faith, learn about a range of global religions and worldviews, and reflect on their own beliefs and experiences. Through an enquiry-based approach, Religion & World Views promotes thoughtful questioning, respectful dialogue, and open-mindedness, enabling children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. The subject contributes significantly to the flourishing of every pupil and to the nurturing of a compassionate, reflective and understanding school community.

**Introduction**

At Alder Grove C of E Primary School, Religion & World Views plays an important role in expressing the Christian vision of the school. Religion & World Views reflects the ethos and values that are held and promotes understanding of people of all faiths and none. Religion & World Views has the same high status as any other subject and contributes to the overall development of our pupils from all backgrounds and traditions.

Each of our school values can be seen through the teaching of Religion & World Views through the enquiry-based approach of the Wokingham Locally Agreed Syllabus, Kapow and Discovery schemes (Discovery to be discontinued from September 2026 at Alder Grove), children are encouraged to explore big questions with curiosity and openness.

**Kindness** is nurtured as children learn about compassion, empathy and care within different faith traditions, recognising how these qualities can guide the way they treat others.

**Service** is developed through opportunities for pupils to understand the importance of helping others, drawing on examples from world religions that highlight generosity, community and acting for the good of others.

**Perseverance** is fostered as children are encouraged to think deeply, keep questioning and continue engaging with challenging ideas, building resilience in their learning and in their understanding of life's big issues.

**Courage** is demonstrated when pupils use critical thinking to evaluate different belief positions, consider their own views and confidently share their thoughts in a respectful and supportive environment.

**Forgiveness** is explored by learning how different faiths understand reconciliation, compassion, and moving forward after conflict, helping pupils reflect on how forgiveness can shape positive relationships.

**Truthfulness** is cultivated through careful enquiry, reflection, and respectful dialogue, enabling children to seek understanding with honesty and integrity as they learn about diverse worldviews.

Children also engage with mindfulness practices to build self-awareness and reflection, supporting their Religion & World Views learning as well as their personal spiritual development.

### **The Legal Position**

Every maintained school in England must provide a basic curriculum (Religion & World Views, sex education and the National Curriculum). This includes provision for Religion & World Views for all registered pupils at the school, except for those withdrawn by their parents (see paragraph below).

Religion & World Views is therefore taught in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus while also reflecting the requirements of the Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education published by the Education Office of the Church of England in February 2019. The statutory section 48 (SIAMS) inspection will evaluate the way that RE contributes to the Christian character of the school and the teaching of RE will reflect this requirement.

### **Purpose and Aims of Religion & World Views**

The purpose of Religion & World Views is to teach children about the religious and non-religious worldviews that they will encounter in modern Britain and enable them to engage in meaningful and considered dialogue with those of all faiths and none. This is religious literacy.

Therefore, the aims of Religion & World Views in our school are:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.
- To enable children to explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways of living, believing and thinking.
- To support the school's Christian Vision and Values

### **Curriculum**

The Religion & World Views curriculum at Alder Grove CofE Primary School follows the Wokingham Locally Agreed Syllabus. Christianity is taught in every year group, with key concepts revisited on a spiral curriculum. At least 50% of the time is devoted to Christianity. Other religions are covered according to the syllabus; e.g. Judaism in KS1, Hinduism & Sikhism/Islam in KS2.

### **Teaching & Learning**

Religion & World Views is taught using an enquiry-based approach that is challenging and robust. Learning will be organised to encourage the development of attitudes such as self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder, as well as providing opportunities to engage appropriately with Fundamental British Values. All faiths are treated respectfully, and opportunities will be made to engage in age-appropriate, meaningful discussion. Where possible pupils will encounter believers and visit places of worship.

A variety of resources, styles, and techniques will be used as appropriate to enable all children to make progress in Religion & World Views regardless of their starting points, ability or background.

In accordance with the 2010 Equality act, The Church of England's Valuing All God's Children document and the school's Equal opportunities, Alder Grove has an inclusive school vision for Religion & World Views education. Children are taught in a safe and welcoming environment where the beliefs of all faiths and lifestyles are presented in a positive manner.

As laid out in the Children and Families Act and the school's SEND the school will ensure that children and young people who have SEND are supported to access religious education lessons so that they are enabled to have fulfilling lives as members of their community

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Religion & World Views subject leader and SLT will monitor teaching and learning in Religion & World Views in accordance with school policy. The Religion & World Views subject leader will observe teaching, conduct book and planning reviews and pupil interviews when appropriate to assess the quality of teaching and learning. The headteacher and governors (including the Religion & World Views Governor) will ensure that adequate monitoring takes place and that the impact of such activity is assessed. Religion & World Views monitoring is planned into the yearly monitoring programme.

### **Resources**

The Religion & World Views subject leader will ensure that Religion & World Views resources are kept up-to-date and that staff are informed when new resources are purchased or made available electronically. Resources will include source materials (e.g. Bibles, visits and visitors, artefacts) where appropriate and be treated with respect by all staff.

### **The Right of Withdrawal**

Pupils may be withdrawn from Religion & World Views or part of Religion & World Views by a parent or guardian in accordance with Schedule 71 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998; teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers will feel comfortable with the type of religious education being taught at this school. Parents who wish to withdraw their children must provide written notification to this effect and provide suitable activities for their children. The school will keep pupils safe but will not provide any work or reading material for pupils who have been withdrawn.

### **Policy Review**

This policy should be reviewed regularly in line with schools' procedures. A biennial review is recommended if possible.