

Key Content and Strands of Resources: 3 Year Cycle (from September 2023)



In his goodness and wisdom God chose to reveal himself and to make known to us the hidden purpose of his will by which through Christ, the Word made flesh, man might in the Holy Spirit have access to the Father and come to share in the divine nature (Dei Verbum 2)

Mission Statement

St. Mary's school community follows the teachings of Jesus Christ, working together to develop the whole child, in a spiritual, moral, academic, physical, social and emotional way, within a caring and supportive environment.

Ethos

We recognise that there is a challenge in creating an enriching environment for all those involved at every level of school life. We take our lead and inspiration from Christ with regard to the Gospel values: the belief that all human beings are uniquely created and loved by God and worthy of respect. This challenge manifests itself in the way that we treat and value:

- Our relationships with each other and the wider community;
- Our respect for one another;
- Our welcome to and interest in all those who visit our school;
- Discipline inspired by forgiveness, healing and reconciliation;

- Our school environment.

Through rising to this challenge we aim to create an awareness of a sense of belonging to and being part of the life of St Mary's.

The Aims of our School

We will endeavour to create a Catholic Ethos in our school, which reflects the Gospel values, through the love, care and respect we show to each other and to all who come to our school. We will teach the beliefs, traditions and practices of the Catholic Faith.

Through the prayer and worship in school we will try to be a living community of people celebrating their love for God and one another.

We believe the quality of the curriculum, with Religious Education at its core, is of prime importance and will focus on the development of the whole child. We will at all times try to make provision for children with special needs, so that all members of our school community achieve their potential.

We will help the children to develop an awareness of and respect for other religions and cultural backgrounds, as we believe this to be an essential preparation for adult life.

We believe that good communication between governors, staff, parents and children is important for the well-being of our school, and we will work in partnership with the wider community especially the home and parish in developing each child's potential.

Aims for each Child at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

- ◆ Whilst at St Mary's School I will learn about being a Christian, I will experience the beliefs, traditions and practices of the Catholic Faith.

- ◆ I will achieve as much as I possibly can in each area of the National Curriculum.
- ◆ I will know how to learn and enjoy learning and will view work in a positive and conscientious manner.
- ◆ I will co-operate and communicate with others effectively, independently and in a group and try to win and lose graciously.
- ◆ I will tolerate and respect the religious beliefs, views and values of others, understand the need for good behaviour and moderate my behaviour accordingly. I will respect the belongings and property of others.
- ◆ If I have a problem I know I can find someone who will discuss it with me.
- ◆ I will try to learn from mistakes and accept there is always room for improvement.
- ◆ I will share a sense of responsibility for my school, parish, local community and the wider environment.

Introduction

At St. Mary's we use the 'Resource Framework for Religious Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster' programme to deliver the learning opportunities to be offered to pupils as set out in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools utilising the Levels of Attainment in Religious Education and the Diocesan Agreed Understandings as a measure of attainment to provide our staff and others with a measure of assessment of learning in Religious Education.

Through the programme we aim to lead children from the point in their spiritual development to which they have been brought by parents and others, when they begin at our school. We will do this through lessons which take account of the children's religious and educational needs and which have clearly set out learning intentions and objectives as set out in the 'Resource Framework for Religious Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster'. This framework is an exemplar resource that models the linear teaching of content according to the Attainment Levels.

We provide opportunities for prayer, reflection and celebration, including those which lead from teaching the 'Resource Framework' units, those which are part of our daily routines and other forms of prayer, and also those which arise during the liturgical year.

Through the RE Programme children will learn the traditions, beliefs and practices of our Catholic faith, as well as about Christian living.

Children will be taught about the faiths of other groups in our community as links arise within the RE Programme.

- Children across the school will be taught about the Jewish and Islamic faiths from a Christian perspective. This will be taught in separate units, taking account of the recommendations about time set out in 'The Framework for Religious Education in the Diocese of Westminster'.

Through the 'Resource Framework for Religious Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster' we provide children with a systematic presentation of the Christian message and way of life at a level, which is appropriate to their stage of development.

In the daily life of our school, we want to show children and each other a way of living in the world according to the Christian 'Way'. We will try to share our vision of what it means in practice to live according to the Gospel values of love, respect, forgiveness and concern for others. Teachers and non-teaching staff, therefore and other adults who come to the school, including the Parish Priest, play a significant role in the way they support, extend and clarify the children's experience of faith and in their attitudes and reactions to situations and events.

RE Teaching

We use the 'Resource Framework for Religious Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster' programme through which two units are taught each term. The same unit is taught across the whole school, including the Early Years (Reception and Nursery) at the same time, although at different levels.

Units are cross-referenced at the planning stage with the levels of attainment and opportunities set out in the 'Religious Education Curriculum Directory'. For each of the units of the 'Resource Framework for Religious Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster' programme, there are particular aims, clear learning intentions and a selection of learning experiences, and at shared planning meetings, these are transferred onto planning sheets in preparation for teaching.

There is a 'focus' display for the current RE topic or related to the Liturgical Year in each classroom. There is always an RE focus in the School's foyer and halls.

Teaching Organisation, Planning and Evaluation

Each topic is planned to last for approximately a half-term. Planning of RE teaching takes place collaboratively, to ensure progression and continuity. The focus of the unit for the half-term ahead is shared by the RE Subject Leader, as well as aspects of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory which are to be covered and relevant references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church are highlighted. Each teacher is also given dates of Saints' Days and other feasts as part of the term's list of dates. A summary of each teacher's planning for the term is then recorded onto planning sheets.

This framework is an exemplar resource that models the linear teaching of content according to the Attainment Levels. Teachers are expected to engage with the suggestions this resource contains, make choices and adapt and apply the activities to suit the needs of the pupils.

In determining the content to teach teachers must first decide on the Strand and Attainment level they wish to achieve and choose teaching and learning activities that will teach the content required for achievement of the level. When time is limited, the guiding principle is, as it is with all good education, less content, taught more richly and deeply. Quantity should never supersede quality.

This framework is formatted to allow teachers to annotate teaching, including changes made for differentiation, as they work through the material.

Assessment of the children's learning is informed by marking children's work, by talking to them and by observing their responses during lessons. Each teacher also completes an End of Unit Record sheet measuring individual children's attainment against the National Levels of Attainment.

We use a whole school approach to the topics, the same topic being taught across the whole school, including in the Foundation Stage at the same time, although at different levels.

In the 2023-2024 school year we follow the Year A units of work in autumn 1 2023 and then the Year B units in autumn 2 2023, spring 2024 and summer 2024.

	Year A	Year B	Year C
Autumn Term 2	<p>A1 From Advent to Christmas</p> <p>Advent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The O Antiphons [AT 1 (ii)] <p>Christmas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Birth of Jesus – the Gospel of Matthew. [AT 1 (i)] • Matthew’s titles for Jesus [AT 1 (i)] 	<p>B1 From Advent to Christmas</p> <p>Advent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectio Divina [AT 1 (ii)] <p>Christmas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas around the world [AT 1 (iii)] 	<p>C1 From Advent to Christmas</p> <p>Advent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advents rituals [AT 1(ii)] <p>Christmas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Birth of Jesus – the Gospel of Luke. [AT 1 (i)] • Mary: ‘Theotokos’ [AT 1 (i)] Local Christmas customs [AT 1 (iii)]
Spring Term	<p>A2 A People of Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epiphany [AT 1 (ii)] • The Beatitudes [AT 1 (i) and (iii)] • The Lord’s Prayer [AT 1 (i) and (ii)] 	<p>B2 Jesus at Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Exodus [AT 1 (i)] • Passover [AT 1 (i)] • Passover today [AT 1 (iii)] 	<p>C2 Being a Sacramental Person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sacramentality: God in everyday life [AT 1 (iii)] • Sacraments of Healing [AT 1 (ii)]
	<p>A3 From Lent to Easter</p> <p>Lent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almsgiving, Penance and Prayer [AT 1 (ii)] 	<p>B3 From Lent to Easter</p> <p>Lent: The Examen Easter:</p>	<p>C3 From Lent to Easter</p> <p>Lent: Easter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Stations of the Cross [(AT 1 (ii)]

	<p>Easter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter from the Gospel of Matthew [AT 1(i)] • The Easter Liturgies [AT 1 (ii)] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter from the Gospel of Mark [AT 1(i)] • The Last Supper [AT 1(i)] • Liturgy of the Eucharist [AT 1 (ii)] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter from the Gospel of Luke. [(AT 1 (i)] • The ‘real presence’ of God in the Eucharist. [(AT 1 (i)]
Summer Term	<p>A4 From Easter to Pentecost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Resurrection from the Gospel of Matthew [AT 1 (i)] • The Pentecost Liturgy [AT 1 (ii)] • Pope Francis [AT 1 (iii)] 	<p>B4 From Easter to Pentecost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Resurrection from the Gospel of Mark [AT 1 (i)] • Pentecost People [AT 1 (iii)] 	<p>C4 From Easter to Pentecost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Resurrection/Post-resurrection appearances from the Gospel of Luke [AT 1 (i)] • Luke’s Story of Pentecost [AT 1 (i)] • ‘Caritas’ [(AT 1 (iii)]
	<p>A5 Matthew’s Gospel: The Kingdom of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parables of the Kingdom; The Gospel of Matthew [AT 1 (i)] Nelson Mandela [AT 1 (iii)] 	<p>B5 Mark’s Gospel: Discipleship</p> <p>Discipleship; The Gospel of Mark</p>	<p>C5 Luke’s Gospel: A ‘Godly’ Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Good Samaritan; the Gospel of Luke [(AT 1 (i)] • The cardinal virtues [(AT 1 (iii)] • St John Southworth [(AT 1 (iii)]

Autumn Term 1¹	<p>A6 Beginning with Church</p> <p>The Sacraments of Initiation [AT 1 (i) and (ii)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>B6 Beginning with God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One God: monotheism [AT 1 (i)] • The Burning Bush [AT 1 (i)] • Biblical metaphors for God [AT 1 (i)] • Trinity [AT 1 (i)] • The Nicene Creed [AT 1 (i)] 	<p>C6 In the Beginning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Genesis stories of Creation [AT 1 (i)] • Creation as a source of revelation [AT 1 (i)] • Praying the Psalms: Jewish and Christian Worship [AT 1 (ii)]
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¹ All '6' (A6, B6, C6) resources are taught at the beginning of the academic year. These resources complete the Liturgical year before the new year begins at Advent with the Autumn 2 resource.