

- Understand how religious faith can sustain them in difficult circumstances & in the face of opposition.

Religious Education lessons at the school will primarily be concerned with three main areas, namely:-

- **Spiritual Development.**
- **Religious Literacy.**
- **An understanding of Christianity, its principles and practice, within the context of the Anglican tradition.**

#### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (2010 Equalities Act)**

As with all other subjects in our curriculum, the school aims to give all children, regardless of gender, ethnic origin, social and cultural background, religion or disability, sexual orientation, equal access to all aspects of the curriculum and school life. The policy for Religious Education aims to ensure the provision of equal opportunities for all, stressing the entitlement of all children to a well-balanced, differentiated R.E. curriculum, with the exception of those pupils who are withdrawn from these activities by their parents on religious or moral grounds.

#### **Parental Rights of Withdrawal in a Voluntary Aided School**

The Worship & Religious Education provided by the Mellor St Mary CE Primary School is in accordance with the Church of England Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and whole life of the community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do so) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school. If a request for withdrawal is made, the Head Teacher should explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation.

#### **ORGANISATION OF THE SUBJECT**

##### ***Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1***

At Foundation Stage and Key Stage one R.E. should strive to build on young children's understanding of themselves and their experiences of family life and relationships as part of their knowledge and understanding of the world. All pupils should learn that they are personally valued from the attitudes which they encounter in school. They should become increasingly aware of things which are special and important to themselves and other people.

The children will sometimes benefit from opportunities to develop their awareness of the local environment through journeys and visits, and by having a chance to experience awe and wonderment in the natural world. They should be introduced to symbolism in religion and hear stories about the lives of key figures.

In Reception class, RE is an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. We relate the religious education aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five.

The EYFS/ KS1 usually work under the 'umbrella' of one main theme each half term. However R.E. will be taught as a discrete subject alongside a class-based topic. In