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**Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Primary School**

Our mission is to deliver outstanding and distinctive Catholic education with Christ at the centre of all that we do. We welcome and recognise God’s Grace in all and celebrate the diverse community we serve.

The Our Lady family learn together through the virtues and values of the Gospels which encourages us to become respectful modern global citizens. Opportunities are given for the children to live out Catholic social teaching principles, working together with local and worldwide charities.

Through mutual support and partnership with our parish and families, we recognise and guide the unique talents of each individual and nurture every child to be the best they can be.

**We Love, Live and Learn in the Light of Christ**

**Religious Education Intent**

**Intent**

All stakeholders of Our Lady of Good Counsel Primary school are committed to `inclusion` in education: this involves minimizing barriers to learning and participation. We believe that each child is unique and has unique needs ‘belief in the individual leads Catholic schools to have the duty to care for the poor and to educate those who are socially, academically, physically or emotionally disadvantaged’ (Catholic Bishops’ Conference May 2014).

In line with our Roman Catholic denomination, we teach the new Curriculum in line with the Religious Education directory. (RED) a programme for Foundation and Key Stages 1 and 2.

Our intent is that children will grow in religious literacy and understanding in a way that is coherent with current educational principles. That they will understand God’s self-revelation of love through Jesus Christ. They will have the opportunity to explore the mystery of faith through scripture and tradition and have a love of God for everyone and everything He has created.

**Implementation**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church addresses the human search for meaning, God’s initiative in Revelation who comes to meet us and our response of faith. This pattern guides the structure of the programme and informs the process of each topic, opened through; understand, discern, and respond. The RED programme also uses six lenses: hear, live, believe and celebrate, dialogue and encounter to explore.

Knowledge lenses set out the object of study for pupils; they indicate what should be known by the end of each age-phase. They are referred to as lenses, since they are the things we are looking at and they divide the content of the programme of study into four systematic subsections for the study of Catholicism and two additional lenses for the study of religions and worldviews, which together comprise the six knowledge lenses of hear, believe, celebrate, and live (the study of the Catholic religion), dialogue, and encounter (the study of other religions and worldviews). Each lens contains progressive expected outcomes for each year group.

The model curriculum has six components that will be known as branches which map onto the six half terms of the school year. Each one has a core theme and invites pupils to learn about an aspect of Revelation, Scripture, life in Christ, and life in the Church, and to discern what their learning means academically and experientially enabling them to see, judge, and act through a deeper knowledge of the Christian faith.

1. **Creation and covenant:** ‘The heavens are telling the glory of God’ (Ps 19:1). In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people.

2. **Prophecy and promise**: ‘In many and various ways, God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets’ (Heb 1:1). In this branch, pupils will explore the Christian understanding of the teaching of the prophets as they point to the fulfilment of God’s promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ.

3. **Galilee to Jerusalem**: ‘God’s only Son, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known’ (Jn 1:18). In this branch, pupils will experience the ministry of Jesus, the Word of God. They will learn about the call of the disciples and the nature of being a follower of Jesus.

4. **Desert to garden**: ‘Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day’ (1 Cor 15:3). In this branch, pupils will study the season of Lent and its culmination in the events of Holy Week. They will learn about the Paschal Triduum at the heart of the Catholic Church’s Liturgy and life.

5. **To the ends of the Earth**: ‘Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit’ (Mt 28:19). In this branch, pupils will study the events that flowed from the Resurrection and Ascension in the coming of the Holy Spirit and the work of the apostles and early Church.

6. **Dialogue and encounter**: ‘For “In him we live and move and have our being”’ (Acts 17:28). In this branch, pupils will learn how Christians work together with people of different religious convictions and all people of goodwill towards the common good, respecting the dignity of all humanity.

**Lessons**

Each lesson contains the same components and follows a similar pattern of teaching, to ensure that all lessons are knowledge rich and focus on the understanding, whilst also including room for spiritual reflection. Each lesson contains:

1. Feedback from the previous lesson

2. Retrieval from previous learning

3. Prayer focus

4. New learning

5. Independent tasks to embed new learning

6. Self-assessment opportunities

**Impact**

Our curriculum has ambition for high achievement of all pupils irrespective of background and starting point. The teaching and learning process is cyclical, therefore assessments are used to inform teaching, but also to measure progress. Through enquiry-based learning, children ask questions about the world they live in. The teaching of RE at Our Lady of Good Counsel Primary School motivates children to consider their role within the wider world as part of a diverse society and enable them to live as responsible young people who are able to make a difference.

Children at Our Lady of Good counsel Primary School will:

* Deepen their appreciation of their faith and fulfil their God-given talents
* Achieve well in RE, reflected in good or outstanding progress that reveals a clear learning journey
* Develop their knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and distinctive religious traditions, and apply this to considering ways in which religions are similar to and different from each other
* Have evidence of work showing a range of religious topics covered, cross curriculum links and work adapted to their individual needs
* Talk enthusiastically about their learning in RE and are eager to further their learning in the next stages of their education
* Grow to know and love God, develop their moral and spiritual nature and deepen their faith
* Through wider reading in RE, know about a wide variety of Saints, how we can learn from their example, and historical religious events and figures
* Be able to make links between Jesus’ life and teaching and link it to their own lives, making links between different forms of Christian action, such as in rituals and charitable acts.