Lark Hill Community Primary School
RE Policy

	Lark Hill Primary School:
Date	**February 26**
Review Date	**February 28**
Signed by Designated Governor	

Introduction

At Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary School we believe the purpose for teaching Religious Education is to prepare pupils for living in a multi-faith society through learning about Christianity and other religions. The subject offers opportunities for reflection and challenges pupils to consider, analyse and evaluate issues. We have adopted the locally agreed Salford Syllabus and work closely with our partnership school, Christ Church.

This syllabus has been chosen for the following reasons:

1. It provides a good balance between the teaching of Christianity and other faiths.
2. It provides a good basis of information allowing staff to teach all areas with sensitivity and knowledge.
3. The scheme ensures the teaching of RE is progressive and allows staff to focus in on aims and objectives.
4. We believe it gives children the skills, knowledge and experience to make informed choices in their own exploration of life and faith.
5. The syllabus allows children to become questful learners to discover more about themselves, others, the world and God.

Aims for the Religious Education Curriculum

- To learn about (explicit) and from (implicit) religion.
- To teach about all faiths in a positive way.
- To develop self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness and appreciation and wonder.
- To explain the meaning of other faiths and to promote respect for them.
- To encourage the children to recognise and value the faith of others.
- To promote spiritual, moral, social, cultural and mental development.

Legal Requirements

Schools have to provide RE for all pupils from Foundation Stage through to Year 6. We follow the Salford agreed recommended syllabus. This syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main - Christian, whilst taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. Children and young people also need to be equipped to handle increasingly complex and important questions about meaning and identity and how we can live together in a multi-cultural and multi-faith/belief society.

Equal Opportunities

R.E. will be taught in a way that promotes the schools equal opportunities policy and as such will:

- Allow all children to see their cultures and traditions represented in a sensitive way.
- Ensure the representation of Christianity as a world-wide faith embracing all races.
- Ensure that when presenting faiths other than our own to the children we will work from a basis of knowledge.
- Children should have opportunities to meet with members of other faith communities and hear them speak about their faith and traditions.
- As in all subjects, activities in RE are carefully differentiated to enable all pupils to achieve their potential.

Withdrawal

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their child wholly or partially from R.E, including R.E trips and visits. Where parents are wishing to exercise this right, the Governing Body would first suggest that the parents meet with the RE Coordinator or Head teacher to discuss their concerns. If the matter cannot be resolved, parents need to put their withdrawal request in writing to the Governing body. The Governing body will make arrangements with the Executive Head teacher and Head of School for the child or children to be supervised or engaged in another activity during this time.

Monitoring, Review and Assessment

Planning, assessment and record keeping is in line with the school's policies for these areas. Each lesson has an implicit and/or an explicit learning objective. Assessment grids for R.E. are provided and used by all staff. Parents are informed of their child's progress verbally during parent meetings and with summaries in the end of year report.

Each child has their own RE book or a class RE 'scrapbook'. These books contain evidence of pupils' discussions, comments and ideas, visits and visitors, photographs, group work, post it notes and printed work from the interactive whiteboard.

In RE, by the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant Programme of Study, as in all subjects of the curriculum. The expectation is that pupils' achievements will be weighed up by teachers using criteria arising from the Programmes of Study.

The time allocation for RE is:

- KS1 60 minutes per week or 36 hours per year as well as Assembly and Reflection time
- KS2 75 minutes per week or 45 hours per year as well as Assembly and Reflection time

Teachers use the Salford agreed syllabus for their teaching but adapt and change it to suit the needs of the children in their class.

Assemblies and Reflection

The aim of assemblies in Lark Hill and Lewis Street School is to provide experiences which deepen the inner senses and evoke feelings of self-worth and the uniqueness of the individual. We strive to show the purpose and meaning to life, the awe and wonder of the natural world, as well as respect and a sense of belonging to the community. We believe it's a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on school values, common concerns, issues, interests, cultures and faiths. This happens at least twice a week for all pupils, as well as gathering together for singing assembly, where we enjoy singing a range of songs including Pop UK songs, hymns and songs from Out of The Ark, which are themed around PHSE, Citizenship and RE.

The RE co-ordinator shares the new Reflection value each half term with a range of stimuli that can be used in Reflection time. Pupils are given Reflection time in class which lasts for around 15 minutes, but this time may be shortened or lengthened, as appropriate and occurs at least once a week. Each class is expected to have a display in class to highlight and celebrate the reflection theme.

We follow a 2-year cycle for Reflection using the following values:

	Autumn 1	**Autumn 2**	**Spring 1**	**Spring 2**	**Summer 1**	**Summer 2**
Year 1	Belonging/ Care	Respect	Love	Compassion	Grow in Faith	Forgiveness
Year 2	Friendship	Trust	Generosity	Courage	Thankfulness	Truth/ Truthfulness