


<b>Laying the Foundations for Life Within a Christian Context</b>		
<b>Responsible Post</b>	Headteacher	
<b>Responsible Committee</b>	Curriculum and Standards	
<b>Review Schedule</b>	3 Years	
<b>Review Date</b>	September 2017	
<b>Changed</b>	No	

## Rationale

As an Anglican Church School, we aim to lay the Foundations for Life within a Christian context. This guidance outlines how we preserve and promote the distinctive Christian character of our school.

## Delivery

We place a strong emphasis on

- developing children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural education through all aspects of school life: the curriculum, worship, the development of relationships, care for the environment, respect for all people.
- promoting spiritual development, fully recognizing the opportunities for this in every aspect of education and in the daily act of worship.
- ensuring good moral development which builds character, enabling each child to have the courage to do what is right and act responsibly.
- providing opportunities to develop socially, encourage children to show compassion and understanding of others, encourages reconciliation and forgiveness in the face of conflict.
- promoting cultural development which incorporates the Christian heritage of this country as well as contributions made by other religions and cultures.
- promoting good mental and physical development – encouraging the aspiration to do everything as well as possible
- providing a Christian education - being explicit not only about the values underpinning it

**Love** – 'God is love.' (1 John 4:16)

**Trust** - I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.' Psalm 91:2

**Truth** – 'I am the way, the truth and the life.' (John 14:6)

but also about the beliefs in the nature of God that give rise to those values.

*(God the Father - source of all being and life, who appointed us as stewards of his creation  
God the Son, Jesus Christ - his redeeming life, his teaching about sin, repentance, forgiveness and love, his death and resurrection*

*God the Holy Spirit (Sustainer) who lives in God's people and makes Christ known in the world)*

- using displays, accommodation and resources to promote the Christian nature of the school and aid spiritual reflection, prayer and worship. E.g each class has a special reflection area.

- ensuring the importance of Religious Education within the curriculum.
- developing strong links with the local clergy, church and diocese.
- playing our part in the Church's mission to the nation.
- emphasizing our Anglican character and practice in worship: using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning; reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship e.g. bread, wine, chalice, cross; observing the cycle of the Anglican Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity, [Harvest] and All Saints' Day; using Anglican prayers i.e. The Lord's Prayer.
- providing all staff and children with opportunities to lead and take part in worship together.
- providing opportunities to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of Christian worship.
- highlighting the need to promote and support the Christian ethos when recruiting, ensuring induction procedures explain to all new staff the importance of the Anglican character of the school.
- expressing, in the school information booklet, the importance of the Christian faith as a fundamental and guiding principle to the life of the school.
- the Headteacher and Governing Body ensuring that the Anglican character of the school is sustained, developed, reviewed and evaluated, specifically
  - preserving and developing the Christian character of the school
  - ensuring that all are aware of the Anglican foundation of the school
  - ensuring that strong links with the Christian church beyond the school are sustained and developed
  - making provision for the Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural development of pupils throughout the curriculum
  - ensuring that there is space for the spiritual development of pupils and staff
  - ensuring that R.E has a high status, allocated adequate time and that it is well taught
  - ensuring that worship is at the heart of the school's life, supporting and affirming the work of the church; the vicar is facilitated and encouraged.

## Monitoring and evaluation

- The policy will be reviewed as part of the schools monitoring cycle every three years. The Head teacher and Foundation governors have responsibility for monitoring this policy.

## **Key Christian Concepts**

- God
- Creation
- Sin
- Evil
- Justice / Freedom
- Atonement
- Prophecy
- Resurrection / Redemption / Salvation
- Holy Spirit / Pentecost
- Trinity
- Community

## **General Christian Concepts, Ideas and Values**

Holiness	Truth	Transcendence
Humility	Spirituality	Healing
Sacredness	Morality	Belief
Peace	Faith	Unity
Mystery	Symbol	Angel
Hope	Community	Worship
Authority	Equality	Respect
Love	Justice	Hope
Charity	Patience	Co-operation
Tolerance	Stewardship	Friendship
Forgiveness	Reconciliation	Dignity
Compassion	Understanding	Sacrifice
Bravery	Wisdom	Greatness
Temptation	Support	Commitment
Acceptance		

## **The Church Year**

Harvest, Annunciation, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Candlemas, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Day, Ascension, Pentecost, Trinity