

Policy/Procedure Name:	School Pastoral Religious Care and Education
Policy/Procedure Number:	SMT058
Date of Approval:	10th April 2012
Effective Date:	January 2009
Revised Date:	May 2021
Review by Date:	May 2023
Policy/Procedure Author:	RE Co-ordinator/ Chaplain
Policy/Procedure Owner:	Head of School
Management Committee Approved By:	SMT
Governor Committee (where appropriate) Approved By:	Not Applicable
For Action By:	All School Staff
For Information to:	Not Applicable
Approval requested to upload on the Treloar Website:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (tick if requested)
Date of Policy Equality Impact Assessment:	April 2012
Impact Assessment was carried out by:	SMT

## **Aim –**

There are two distinct elements in the School's religious provision.

- The teaching of RE within the curriculum is the responsibility of the Religious Education Co-ordinator, a fully qualified and experienced teacher.
- The lead Chaplain, an ordained minister of the Church of England, co-ordinates the spiritual life of the School and all aspects of worship.

**The School welcomes students of any religion, philosophical belief or none and will try to facilitate worship for followers of any faith.**

- The School comes together twice a week for a whole school assembly. The Chaplaincy plays a part in ensuring that most assemblies include elements of worship.
- Students can go with a member of staff to local churches on three Sundays of each month.
- If a residential student wanted to attend a different place of worship this would be arranged with the support of their MDT.
- A Christian Union meets four times each term.
- Special services are held to celebrate Christmas and Easter.
- Classes are invited to the Chapel to engage with Advent and Easter experiences as well as for storytelling or to explore a theme.

## **Religious Education**

Religious Education should foster in students a reflective approach to life, enabling and enriching this process through their study of living faiths, acknowledging the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while also taking into account the teachings and practices of the other principal religions represented in the country: Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism.

The Education Act 1996 requires that Religious Education should be taught to all pupils except those withdrawn at the wish of the parents. Our programmes of study are not designed to convert students, or to urge a particular religion or religious belief on students, but do reflect the agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton: "Living Difference".

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When studying a religion we respect and value the contributions made by any student who is a member of that religion.

Each class has Religious Education lessons during the year, at an appropriate level for their needs.

For some classes this is experiential topic work; for others it is festival based sessions at appropriate times of the year; and for others it is topic based work which is one third Christianity, one third another religion, and one third cross religion topic work (such as religion and the environment).

As well as the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, religious education seeks to promote the particular skills of

- reflection
- empathy
- comprehension
- interpretation and analysis
- evaluation

while also promoting students' skills in literacy; citizenship, speaking and listening; information technology.

We particularly hope to foster attitudes such as

- respect
- open -mindedness
- tolerance
- wonder and appreciation

in the study of religions and the spiritual dimension of human life.

### **The Role of the Chaplaincy**

The School was founded on Christian principles and employs two part-time chaplains for the pastoral and spiritual care of students and staff. As the School is non-denominational the chaplains are available for those of any faith or none.

The chaplains are members of the multi-disciplinary team of staff who serve at the School and College. As such they are concerned for the students as whole people, in their relationships, values, doubts and beliefs. While comparatively few may have obvious religious needs the chaplains recognise that all have spiritual needs. They therefore seek to explore questions of meaning and purpose.

This frequently involves helping to clarify the right questions rather than producing easy answers. The chaplains also encourage the development of a mature and living faith. The chaplains also seek closely with the Counselling Team to provide training and support across the school and college community at times of in relation to death, grief and bereavement.

The chaplains are available to support lessons on request, and may also teach some lessons, particularly on world religions, if required.

<b>Policy/Procedure Communication and Implementation Action Plan - Amend and add to as appropriate</b>		
	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
1	Ensure that all managers, employees and volunteers of Treloar Trust have access to the related procedures.	Head of School
2	Train all managers, employees and volunteers in the implementation of the policy and the related procedures.	RE Coordinator
3	Ensure that all new employees, staff and volunteers are made aware of the policy, understand it, and know where to access a copy and where to access the related procedures.	RE Coordinator
4	Ensure that all managers, employees and volunteers of Treloar Trust have access to the related procedures.	All Managers
5	Ensure that all new employees, staff and volunteers know their responsibilities, and receive training in carrying these out.	All Managers

**Links to other related policies and procedures:**

**Further sources of information:**

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

It is essential for those with designated responsibilities to familiarise themselves with the sources of information, referred to above.

Policy documents describe mandatory minimum standards and will be subject to audit and review. Line managers are required to ensure suitable and sufficient arrangements are in place to meet policy requirements, including the provision of information and instruction to staff.