



The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation

Religious Education (RE) Policy

Adopted by	Governing Body Signed: <u>John Ford</u> (Chair of Governors)
Date	October 2025
Review Date	October 2028

Religious Education Policy

The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale Church of England Federation

Carlton & Faceby Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Vision and Ethos

At The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation, Religious Education (RE) is central to our Christian vision and ethos. It supports pupils in developing religious literacy, enabling them to hold balanced and well-informed conversations about religion and belief, in line with the Diocese of York's guidance.

Links with our federation's theologically rooted vision, and support for pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development are intrinsic to our RE curriculum and have a significant impact on learners. We provide a wide range of opportunities for learners to understand and to make links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of the range of faiths and world views studied.

Legal Framework

Carlton & Faceby CE (VA) School

As a Voluntary Aided Church of England school, RE is taught in accordance with our Trust Deed and reflects the beliefs and practices of the Church of England. We follow the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement (2019) and the Balanced RE approach developed by diocesan advisers including Olivia Seymour (York Diocese). RE is taught from the York Diocesan syllabus.

Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate CE (VC) School

As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England school, Religious Education (RE) is taught in accordance with the Locally Agreed Syllabus determined by the Local Authority. However, RE also reflects the Christian foundation of the school and is enriched by the ethos and values of the Church of England. The school draws on the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement (2019) and the Diocese of York's Balanced RE approach to ensure high-quality provision that supports pupils' spiritual and moral development.

Aims of RE

RE at The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation aims to:

- Enable pupils to know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith.
- Develop knowledge of a range of religions and worldviews.
- Engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose.
- Reflect critically on their own beliefs and values.
- Promote respect and understanding across different faiths and cultures.

Curriculum Design

Our curriculum is designed using the Balanced RE framework, which includes:

- Substantive knowledge: Core beliefs, practices, and texts.
- Disciplinary knowledge: Ways of knowing and engaging with religious content.
- Personal knowledge: Pupils' own reflections and worldview development.

We use resources such as:

- Understanding Christianity.
- The Diocese of York's Balanced RE materials.
- The RE Statement of Entitlement.
- North Yorkshire Locally Agreed Syllabus.
- NATRE scheme of work.

Organisation and Time Allocation

RE is taught weekly across all key stages:

- EYFS: 36 hours/year minimum.
- KS1: 36 hours/year minimum.
- KS2: 45 hours/year minimum.

Christianity comprises at least 60% of the curriculum. Other religions studied include Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and non-religious worldviews.

Teaching and Learning

RE is delivered through:

- Enquiry-based learning.
- Critical engagement with biblical texts.
- Opportunities for discussion, reflection, and creativity.
- Visits to places of worship and guest speakers.

Visits and Visitors

When possible, we visit places of worship in the local area and region, where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with children and be involved in the teaching of RE. We aim to use this valuable resource for all classes. All pupils have the opportunity to visit at least one place of worship from a religion other than Christianity through our 'Federation Fab 15'. This is in addition to regular visits to our local church and the visit of a religious representative to their RE class, as appropriate.

Assessment

Assessment in RE is formative and summative, focusing on:

- Understanding of key concepts.
- Ability to engage with theological ideas.
- Development of personal and disciplinary knowledge.
- Achievement against our federation's curriculum end points.

We use the Diocese of York's "Getting Better at Ways of Knowing" guidance to support assessment.

Leadership and Monitoring

The RE Subject Leader (Matthew Scott):

- Oversees curriculum planning and delivery.
- Supports staff with CPD and resources.
- Monitors teaching and learning.
- Reports to the Governing Body.

Right of Withdrawal

In accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and current Department for Education (DfE) guidance, parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from Religious Education (RE) and/or Collective Worship, either wholly or in part. This right applies to all maintained schools, including Voluntary Aided (VA), Voluntary Controlled (VC), and academies.

Schools must supervise pupils who are withdrawn, but are not required to provide alternative teaching or incur additional costs. Pupils may remain in the classroom without participating or be supervised elsewhere on site.

Parents may request alternative RE provision (e.g. in accordance with a different faith or the local authority's agreed syllabus), but schools may refuse such requests if they are deemed unreasonable due to resource, staffing, or timetabling constraints.

Schools are encouraged to meet with parents to clarify the nature of RE taught and to avoid misunderstandings. All withdrawal requests should be submitted in writing to the headteacher and documented appropriately.

This right does not extend to other curriculum subjects where religion may be referenced, such as history or literature.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or in response to diocesan or national updates.