

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMME COME AND SEE

To fulfil our aims and objectives of Religious Education we use the 'Come and See' programme of Religious Education recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

- Two hours 10 minutes each week (10% of curriculum time) are set aside for the teaching of RE.
- There are 9 topics for each year group, with each topic lasting for 4 weeks.
- There are clear objectives and learning outcomes for each year group, allowing pupils to work at the appropriate level for their understanding and stage of development.

THE PROCESS

KNOWLEDGE/UNDERSTANDING/SKILLS/ATTITUDES

The process for delivering the topics in 'Come and See' has three stages - *Explore*, *Reveal* and *Respond* which enable pupils to develop knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes.

SEARCH - EXPLORE	The introduction to the topic where the children's life experience is explored, the question(s) it raises are wondered at, shared, investigated and their significance reflected upon.
REVELATION- REVEAL	The heart of the programme where knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith is revealed through the Word, in Scripture, Tradition, doctrine, prayers, rites and Christian living.
RESPONSE- RESPOND	Learning is assimilated, celebrated and responded to in daily life.

Explore (1 week)

The teacher helps the children to begin to look at and focus on the experience within their own lives - concerning themselves, their relationships and their world. In this way the children are led to a deeper understanding, clearer vision and the discovery of significance and value of the experiential events of everyday life.

This will involve:

- Exploring experiences through story, music, drama, dance, art, etc
- Investigation
- Story telling
- Consideration of the *big* questions
- Discussion
- Becoming aware of the questions raised
- Reflecting on significance of these experiences.

Religious Education learns from evangelisation and catechesis that learning and growth involve active participation and response. For this reason, personal experience plays a significant part in the exploration, discovery and assimilation of the saving truth of God's revelation.

(Religious Education Curriculum Directory 2012)

Reveal (2 weeks)

Reveal is the heart of the process. The teacher and the children together discover the Christian understanding of the mystery of the Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They explore the mystery of human life as revealed in the person, life and gospel of Jesus Christ Christians. It will involve learning about Scripture, the teaching of the Church, prayers, rites, psalms, hymns and other expressions of Christian faith and the lives of outstanding Christians.

The process of delivery will involve:

- meeting new knowledge of religious education;
- developing an understanding of this new knowledge;
- reflecting on the wonder of the mystery;
- gathering information and collecting facts connected with this knowledge;
- researching, collating and classifying;
- becoming aware of the questions raised;
- working with problems and grappling with puzzling experiences;
- exploring experiences through story, music, drama, dance, art;
- exploring what leads to understanding and meaning;
- asking questions and discussing;
- exploring in creative and practical ways through drama, writing, poetry, song, dance, music, ICT and service of others;
- making links between Christian understanding and the shared life experience;
- valuing life experience;
- acknowledging and respecting difference(s);
- being open to new perspectives.

Respond (1 week)

Remember is the first part of this section. The children will respond by remembering and celebrating all that they have learnt. This new understanding will enable them to make a personal response in their daily lives. This part begins by reflecting on what the children wonder about. This is followed by providing the opportunity for the children to remember what they have understood and learnt.

This may be done through:

- creating a quiet, prayerful atmosphere for reflection
- looking at and thinking about the work done
- drawing attention to different aspects of this work
- sharing thoughts and feelings.

Rejoice is the second part of the section. There will be the opportunity to plan and take part in a celebration. It will be essential to involve the children in the choice of material to be used in the celebration.

Renew the teacher helps each child to make an individual response, to hold on to and make their own, what they have understood of the topic. In this part the children will think about how they can apply their learning to their lives.

The process encompasses a variety of teaching and learning styles, which enable the needs of individual pupils to be met.

OVERVIEW OF CONTENT

Term	Theme	Topic		
		Reception Year	Year One	Year Two
Autumn	Domestic Church Family	Myself God knows and loves each one.	Families God's love and care for every family.	Beginnings God at every beginning.
	Baptism/ confirmation Belonging	Welcome Baptism; a welcome for a new baby.	Belonging Baptism an invitation to belong to God's family.	Signs & symbols Signs & symbols used in Baptism.
	Advent/ Christmas Loving	Birthday Looking forward to Jesus' birthday.	Waiting Advent a time to look forward to Christmas.	Preparations Advent; preparing to celebrate Christmas.
Spring	Local Church Community	Celebrating People celebrate with the parish family.	Special people People in the parish family.	Books The books used in Church.
	Eucharist Relating	Gathering The parish family gathers to Celebrate Eucharist.	Meals Mass; Jesus' special meal.	Thanksgiving Mass a special time for saying thank you to God for everything, especially Jesus.
	Lent/Easter Giving	Growing Looking forward to Easter.	Change Lent a time for change.	Opportunities Lent; an opportunity to start anew in order to celebrate Jesus' new life.
Summer	Pentecost Serving	Good News Passing on the Good news of Jesus.	Holidays & holydays Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit.	Spread the word Pentecost a time to spread the Good News.
	Reconciliation Inter-relating	Friends Friends of Jesus	Being sorry God helps us to choose well	Rules Reasons for rules in the Christian family
	Universal Church World	Our world God's wonderful world	Neighbours Neighbours share God's world	Treasures God's treasure; the world

OTHER FAITHS AND 'Come and See'

For all year groups, two weeks are devoted to the teaching of other faiths. The pupils at St Bede's will be introduced to the teaching, beliefs and practices of Judaism and Islam.

Autumn term - Judaism (1 week)

Summer term - Islam (1 week)

Themes in Come and See

Come and See is developed through three themes based on three documents of the Second Vatican Council (Lumen Gentium, Sacrosanctum Concilium) which are gradually explored each time at greater depths.

They are:

- Church (Lumen Gentium Christ's -Light to the Nations),
- Sacrament (Sacrosanctum Concilium - Celebration)
- Christian living (Gaudium et Spes - Joy and Hope).

Church

The Church themes occur in each season time and each theme gradually builds on the understanding of the previous themes.

1. **Autumn**- My story ~ my family ~ **Domestic Church**. To start the year *Come and See* begins with my story: within a **family**. The Church honours the family with the title Domestic Church because it is there that parents 'by their word and example are the first (teachers) heralds of faith with regard to their children.'¹³

2. **Spring** - Our story ~ local Community ~ **Local Church**. After Christmas the children explore the theme of local Church which is our story. The **parish** is where people gather together to celebrate and practice care and love for each other.¹⁴ The **diocese** is the community of the Christian faithful.¹⁵

3. **Summer** - The story ~ the worldwide community ~ **Universal Church**. The year finishes with the story of the **worldwide** community; the universal Church. In the Church, God is calling together his people throughout the world.¹⁶ 'The order and harmony of the created world result from the diversity of beings and from the relationships that exist among them'¹⁷

Sacrament

The **Sacramental** themes occur once in every season time and each theme gradually builds on the understanding of the previous theme.

1. **Autumn** - Belonging ~ born into Christ's life. Following on from an understanding of belonging to a family the theme of **Baptism** introduces the understanding of being initiated into belonging to the Christian Church during key stage 1. 'The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life.'¹⁸ At key stage 2 children will learn about the Sacrament of **Confirmation**, whereby the baptised are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit, the Sacrament of **Ordination** for the service of the Church and the Sacrament of **Marriage**, perfecting the human love of wife and husband.

2. **Spring** - Relating ~ God's love in our lives ~ **Eucharist**. In the Spring time after learning about the local Church community, the Sacrament of the **Eucharist** is explored. This is the Sacrament of communion with Christ and the Church. This sacrament is at the heart of *Come and See* since it is at the heart of Christ nourishing his people.

3 **Summer** - inter-relating ~ service to the community ~ **Reconciliation**. The Sacrament of **Reconciliation** forms part of the work of the summer time when there an opportunity to learn about the joy and challenge of relationships and God's love and mercy celebrated in this sacrament. At key stage 2 children will learn about the Sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick**, which strengthens, forgives and unites the ailing person more closely to Christ.

Christian living

The **Christian living** themes occur in each season time and each theme gradually builds on the understanding of the previous theme.

1. **Autumn** - loving - celebrating life - **Advent Christmas**. The **Advent - Christmas** theme considers the gift of God's love in Jesus. Christmas and our preparation celebrate the wonderful gift of Jesus and offers the witness of loving as a way of life. 'The Word became flesh so that we might know God's love.'¹⁹

2. **Spring** - giving - the cost of life -. In the Spring season **Lent and Easter** are explored, Jesus' love for humankind knows no limit. Jesus offered his life and gave an example of giving as a way of life. 'Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the feast of feasts.'²⁰ 'The Resurrection ... remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something which transcends and surpasses history.'²¹

3. **Summer** - serving in love - feasts to celebrate - Pentecost. The study of the Ascension and Pentecost completes the Easter story and shows how the gift of the Holy Spirit strengthens the community and enables Christians to give witness to a life of joyful service. 'In this age of the Church, Christ now lives and acts in and with his Church, in a new way appropriate to this new age.'²²

Each theme is explored through different topic in each age group. The themes of each season are:

AUTUMN

The three autumn time themes are developed in the light of an understanding of **Creation**:

Family	Domestic Church focuses on life as gift, myself as a unique and loved creation, the love and care that can be expressed in family groups.
Belonging	Baptism/Confirmation focuses on the call to belong, the creative potential that belonging develops; and Baptism and Confirmation, sacraments of the gift of God's life and friendship.
Loving	Advent/Christmas focuses on the capacity for entering into loving relationships and the perfect gift and revelation of God's love, Jesus, born of Mary, born as one of us.

SPRING

The three spring time themes are developed in the light of an understanding of **Incarnation**:

Community	Local Church focuses on the people of God gathered in Christ, united in the journey of faith, in care for one another, in sharing their story and in celebration.
Relating	Eucharist focuses on the invitation to know Jesus, to live in communion with him and with one another
Giving	Lent/Easter focuses on Jesus' loving self-giving on the cross, the Father's love that raises him to new life and the challenge to Christians to follow Jesus' example of self-giving.

SUMMER

The three summer themes are developed in the light of an understanding of **Redemption and the work of the Holy Spirit**:

Serving	Pentecost focuses on the on-going mission of Jesus Christ in the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Inter-Relating	Reconciliation focuses on the love, compassion and forgiveness of God the Father revealed in Jesus and poured out by the Spirit to bring forgiveness and reconciliation in the sacrament of Reconciliation.
World	Universal Church focuses on the same love revealed in the diversity of the world and its people, and in the gifts of the Spirit that bear fruit in love, joy, justice and peace for all people.