

Religious Education is a statutory part of the primary curriculum and has equal standing in relation to core and other foundation subjects. Religious Education is central to the purpose of the FORT Federation. As church schools, the Christian faith and values inform all aspects of our Christian distinctiveness, school life and learning environments.

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Religious Education within the FORT Federation explores how individuals and communities make meaning and sense of their lives through Christianity and other principal religions of the world. It provokes challenging questions about meaning and purpose in life, beliefs about God, ultimate reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. Children learn to weigh up the value of wisdom from different sources, to develop and express their insights in response and to agree or disagree respectfully.

The FORT Federation delivers Religious Education using the agreed syllabus for Devon and Torbay schools and academies. The teaching of Christianity is supported using the Church of England Office's 'Understanding Christianity' resource. In addition to collective worship, Religious Education is taught explicitly (between fifty minutes and an hour depending on the key stage) each week.

Religious Education is taught in such a way that it inspires our children to explore, develop and affirm their own faith and values and develop respect for the faith, beliefs and values of others. Through RE, we aim to nurture and foster children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, improving their understanding and awareness of the Christian way of life and develop in pupils an aptitude for dialogue so that they can participate positively in our society, with its diverse religions and beliefs.