

Non-Partisan Policy

October 14 to be reviewed Oct 17

You will know the truth and the truth will set you free!

Core Principles

We believe that truth is a vital element of a healthy life. The Bible says of Jesus that He is Truth. The meaning of the word 'truth' is important to understand.

Origin from two Greek words meaning 'is hidden', or 'secret'.

Aletheia (ἀλήθεια) is a Greek word variously translated as "unclosedness", "unconcealedness", "disclosure" or "truth". The literal meaning of the word ἀ-λήθεια is "the state of not being hidden; the state of being evident" and it also implies sincerity, as well as factuality or reality.

If I live in truth towards someone I will not conceal any information that would affect or impact them.

As a school we believe that openness and honesty are important qualities. Our faith can withstand scrutiny. We do not need to avoid or hide anything. It is important for the children in our care to be taught the tenants of the Christian faith and as they get older to face the questions and challenges to their faith.

1 Peter 3 v 15 says, '... but in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect ...' It is important to add reason to our faith.

World Views

We also believe it is important for children to be trained to listen to and respect other views. This can be at a child-like level such as agreeing on what game to play or different opinions about a favourite TV programme. Teaching children to respect and listen to one another can be done from a young age. As children mature they can handle listening to other religious, philosophical and political views. It is the school's policy to expose children, appropriately, to other views so that they learn to listen and formulate their own opinions. They should be able to give a reason for what they believe.

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Teachers will seek to give a balanced lessons. Appropriateness of content needs to be considered in each lesson and activity. The pupils should have, on balance, exposure to a variety of views on a wide range of issues. A key element in handling issues is that pupils have space to form their own opinion and are be able to give a reasoned case for their views in discussion with their parents.

Monitoring

The school will carry out regular observations of teaching to ensure the above, and will keep a record of the visiting speakers.