

## **Religion**

Through Religious Education we aim to relate Christ's teaching to the childrens' own life experience. It is in this process that the liturgical life of the school is most significant; worship, prayer and reflection enabling children to strengthen their life in Christ and to recognise God's presence in their world.

Therefore, Religious Education is not just one subject among many, but the foundation of our teaching.

The success of the Religious Education taught in school relies on the partnership between school, home and Parish.

Parents are called to be, "the best and first educators of their children". Support is given by the school and Parish to help parents play their full part in the instruction of their children. The whole network of personal relationships within the school community form an integral part of the curriculum and an important context for learning.

The school follows the "Here I Am" Religious Education programme. It has a thematic approach, which relates to the key dimensions of Christian faith each term. In the forthcoming academic year (2013/14) the school will be adopting a new scheme "Come and See" which has replaced "Here I Am". The scheme has been trialled in the school and staff will receive training during this term in preparation for full implementation in September 2013.

The objectives of both RE programmes take account of the religious and educational needs of our children and recognise that they bring with them a wide range of faith experiences. The Christian message and way of life is presented in ways appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child. Learning which links with the experience of other faiths is provided to lay foundations for appreciation, respect and understanding of other traditions and cultures.

The First Holy Communion programme is Parish-based and is supported by the school.