Ysgol Awel y Môr

Religion, Values and Ethics, (RVE)

Policy owned by	Date adopted by the Governing Body	Signed on behalf of the Governing Body	Review date
C Foulkes - Headteacher	Summer 2026		Autumn 2029

Version	Date	Author / Owner	Description of Changes	Approved By	Next Review Date
1.0	June 2026	Catrin Foulkes Headteacher	Initial policy creation	Temporary Governing Body	Autumn 2029
1.1					
1.2					
2.0					
2.1					

Policy status
Statutory with a review every 3 years.

Consultation
This policy was established and reviewed by all school staff in consultation with the Governing Body.

Our approach to putting the wellbeing of our whole school community first encompasses all that we do. We aim to learn about life-long behaviours, as well curriculum content to ensure that all our pupils are fully equipped with;

- a moral compass
- skills
- education

so that they can secure future success, personal fulfilment and become responsible citizens of the world.

This is brought to life each day in school. It is demonstrated by the adults in our school community and our pupils are able to recognise what this looks like in action. We support and encourage them to choose behaviours that embody our approaches, so that they know what it means to;

- care for themselves
- care for others
- care for our school

We aim to

- Create a secure and vibrant learning environment where everyone feels included and has the opportunity to shine.
- Create an atmosphere where standards of teaching and learning are constantly in view and transparent.
- Provide an environment where all members of our community are challenged and given the chance to grow and thrive.
- Ensure that everybody is aware of how they learn best, how to improve and apply their skills to new situations.
- Give opportunities to teach and learn positive Christian and human values that will shape them for life.
- Be at the heart of the community, working in partnership to provide an inspiring and motivating learning experience for all.
- Celebrate every achievement and demonstrate a pride in ourselves, each other and our school.

Introduction
- RVE at Ysgol Awel y Môr forms part of the Humanities Area of Learning.
- Religion, Values and Ethics is a statutory requirement of the Curriculum for Wales and is mandatory for all learners from ages 3 to 16.
- There is **no** parental right to request that a child is withdrawn from RVE.
- Our RVE curriculum is designed in accordance with the Conwy Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics 2022-27.
- Wales has a rich and distinctive culture with its own language, customs, festivals, music and politics. It is a culture in which many diverse views co-exist within a society bound by the common values of democracy and the rule of law.

- This diversity creates the dynamic and vibrant society, which reflects modern Welsh life where all social, cultural, religious and spiritual beliefs are scrutinised, and those who hold them are respected and treated equally.
- Ysgol Awel y Môr is a "gathered community". Pupils travel here to attend school from Abergele, Kinmel Bay, Towyn and Rhyl.
- Admissions are organised by Conwy Borough Council's Admissions Department.
- The diversity of modern Welsh life, is embedded in all aspects of our curriculum through rich learning experiences.
- Throughout its history, Wales has welcomed people of different faiths and from different cultures, and through our teaching of Religion, Values and ethics, Ysgol Awel y Môr supports an approach which promotes the understanding of and respect for all religions, beliefs and non-religious world views, thus reflecting the diversity that exists in our forward-looking Welsh society.
- We celebrate a creative, compassionate education that embraces and empowers, ensuring that our pupils are supported to engage with matters of "purpose, faith and belief" and to fulfill their roles as valued members of society ready to play a full part in life and work as ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world.

RVE and the Curriculum for Wales

- RVE is situated within the Humanities Area of Learning Experience (AoLE) and incorporates a range of disciplinary approaches that can be used by pupils to engage critically with a broad range of religious and non-religious concepts.
- There are also strong relationships between RVE and the other disciplines within Humanities as well as with other AoLEs.
- Concepts are important in RVE because they are central ideas that help pupils to make sense of and interpret human experience, the natural world and their own place within it. Pupils will have opportunities to explore RVE concepts through a variety of sub lenses:
    - **Search for meaning and purpose**: How people respond to the deeper questions of life in order to understand the human condition.
    - **The natural world and living things**: How and why people show concern and responsibility for the world and experience awe and wonder in nature.
    - **Identity and belonging**: What makes us who we are as people, communities and citizens living in a diverse world.
    - **Authority and influence**: How and why different types of authority influence people's lives.
    - **Relationships and responsibility**: How people live together and why developing healthy relationships is important.
    - **Values and ethics:** How and why people make moral choices and how this influences their actions.
    - **The journey of life:** What people experience as part of the journey of life and how these experiences are acknowledged.

RVE in the Curriculum for Wales is objective, critical and pluralistic, both in content and pedagogy and is not about making pupils religious or non-religious. The teaching of RVE at Ysgol Awel y Môr promotes openness, impartiality, and respect for others.

Teaching and Learning

- The integrated, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary nature of the What Matters Statements, together with Cross-Cutting Themes, means that there are rich opportunities to use a topic approach to RVE.
- We teach through topics.

Links to Our Church

- Our local churches are St Mary's in Towyn and Kinmel Bay Church.
- We have close links with members of the church. The school and the church work in partnership with many opportunities scheduled over the year and more bespoke visits as they arise
- We have regular visits from the vicar from St.Mary's who visits the school to assist with Collective Worship, support curriculum needs as well as supporting us pastorally.
- Visitors from Kinmel bay Church attend regularly to lead 'Open the Book' collective Worship.
- During the year the school is involved in various services such as Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas.

Visits and Visitors

- We encourage visitors to our school in line with our visitor's policy.
- We visit places of worship in the immediate vicinity of the school, where faith leaders and other members of the community meet with pupils and are involved in the teaching of RVE.
- In addition, in some classes, we offer the opportunity to visit different places of worship. We understand the importance of opportunities to research other faith and belief groups including those who hold non-religious philosophical convictions, that are represented locally and across Wales, as well as sacred places and spaces, past and present.

Assessment

- RVE progress is tracked by progress against the Descriptions of Learning and What Matters Statements in the Humanities Area of Learning Experience and other AoLEs, in order to paint a fuller perspective of a pupil's progress and attainment.
- Teaching staff meet each term with the Headteacher at Pupil Progress meetings to discuss pupils' progress and to unlock any possible barriers to learning.
- Progress is reported in the end of year report, annually.

Monitoring

- Books are scrutinised each half term by staff and regularly by our GwE SIA.
- Headteacher, SLT and the Local Authority Link Person carry out learning walks and lesson observations as per our termly monitoring schedule.
- Governors monitor progress against our SDP priorities through visits, learning walks and listening to learners.
- Our Curriculum TLR holder monitors planning and checks planning audits. These are maintained by teaching staff to ensure a broad curriculum is planned and taught.