



**Archbishop Courtenay**  
**Church of England**  
**Primary School**

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**Headteacher:** Mrs S Heather  
**Chair of Governors:** R O'Connell

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Archbishop Courtenay Primary School, we believe that RE is for all pupils. Every pupil has a legal entitlement to RE teaching and forms a part of our 'broad and balanced curriculum'. RE is multifaith, and recognises the place of Christianity and the other principal religions in the UK. Non-religious worldviews are included. When teaching, we use phrases like, 'Most Christians believe that ...', 'Some Muslims think that ...', we do not impose any faith onto the children and encourage them to be critical thinkers and to evaluate their knowledge.

The RE curriculum, 'shall reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain'. Contemporary guidance from the Government makes clear that the breadth of RE will include the six principal religions of the UK and non-religious worldviews.

Parents may withdraw their children from RE lessons or any part of the RE curriculum (including Collective Worship) and the school has a duty to supervise them, though not to provide additional teaching or to incur extra cost. Where the pupil has been withdrawn, the law requires alternative arrangements to be made for RE, of the kind the parents want the pupil to receive. These arrangements will be made by the parents; the school is not expected to make these arrangements.

We would hope that our parents would talk to us before making the decision to withdraw their child/ren and if you would like to speak to me please contact the School Office via telephone 01622 754666.

However, if you still wish for your child to continue to be withdrawn from RE and Collective Worship, please complete the form below and provide suitable religious study for them to undertake in the classroom. At Archbishop Courtenay, the pupils have RE lessons every Monday afternoon and gather for Collective Worship every day for around 20 minutes.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Sue Heather

Headteacher

Withdrawal from Religious Study and Collective Worship

Name of pupil: ..... Class: .....

I do not wish my child to participate in Religious Study at Archbishop Courtenay Primary School. I understand that I need to provide suitable work for my child to complete in the Class's RE lessons.

Signed: ..... Print Name: ..... Date: .....



*The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust*

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