



St Oswald's Worleston CE Primary

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'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware St Oswalds CE Primary school is part of the Rural Church Schools Academy Trust along with Warmingham CE and Bunbury CE Church schools. All 3 schools are Church of England primary schools and all work under the umbrella of the Diocese of Chester. The majority of church schools in England are linked to the Church of England; there are two main types, voluntary aided (VA) and voluntary controlled (VC).

At present St Oswalds is the only school within the trust to be a former VC school prior to academisation. There are subtle differences between VC and VA schools around governance structures, appointment of staff and the teaching of religious education and collective worship. It is possible for an academy that was formerly a VC school to alter these certain characteristics so they are the same as those of a former VA school which has converted to an academy.

As a former VC school St Oswalds would be permitted to follow the LA (local authority) agreed syllabus for the teaching of RE. Whereas the VA schools follow the Diocesan syllabus. We are seeking to consult around agreement on a syllabus change.

At present St Oswalds school follows the Diocese syllabus which aligns with both Bunbury and Warmingham schools meaning the teaching of RE is consistent across the trust. As a former VC school, we are seeking to consult with all stakeholders to confirm the teaching of the current syllabus rather than use the LA agreed syllabus.

Through the consultation we would look to ensure that the teaching of RE does not alter from what the children are currently receiving and therefore for the pupils there would be no change.

The consultation period will run for a 4-week period from Wednesday 22nd March until Wednesday 19th April during which any comments, questions or queries can be added to the parent survey form which can be found through your school spider parental login.

Further information regarding the schools current teaching of RE can be found on the school webpage using the following link.

<https://www.stoswald-worl.cheshire.sch.uk/page/re/38184>

Kind regards

Nic Badger

Executive Headteacher for Rural Church Schools Academy Trust

Directors of Rural Church Schools Academy Trust

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16

