**Hoole Church of England Primary School**

**Statement on Religious Education including Right of Withdrawal**

In all church schools, collective worship and the whole ethos are based on the teachings of the Church of England.  This makes our schools distinctively Christian.

However, within this Christian environment, it is entirely appropriate and necessary in today’s world, that respect for the great world faiths is fostered in Religious Education. This respect must be based on an accurate and sympathetic understanding of the other faiths which is consistent with the school’s loyalty to its Christian foundation. This approach provides learners with a greater understanding of the world and society in which they are growing up. Children are able to see the faith of others in relation to their own.

We seek to build up harmonious relations within communities, promoting inclusion for all and combating the evils of racism.

In order to successfully achieve our aims, we believe it is appropriate for children to have access to quality teaching and learning in Religious Education.

**However, parents and carers do have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education.**

If parents/carers wish to withdraw their child from Religious Education lessons, they should write to the headteacher indicating that they wish to request that their child is withdrawn.

School representatives will contact parents/carers to discuss their request and to offer any additional information required to support families in making an informed decision.

From this discussion, a final decision is made by parents/carers. The school documents this decision and ensures that all relevant parties are informed.

**Further information about Religious Education in Church of England Primary Schools**

Further information regarding Religious Education in Church of England Primary School is available via the link below:

<https://www.chester.anglican.org/schools/religious-education>