



Where learning's an adventure

Religious Education Policy

	Name	Signature	Date
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Checked and Reviewed by:			
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Religious Education is unique in the school curriculum in that it is neither a core subject nor a foundation subject but the 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils'.

Religious Education is taught in our school because it makes:

"...a major contribution to the education of children and young people. At its best, it is intellectually challenging and personally enriching. It helps young people develop faith, beliefs and values, and promotes the virtues of respect and empathy, which are important in our diverse society. It fosters civilised debate and reasoned argument, and helps pupils to understand the place of religion and belief in the modern world". (RE: realising the potential, Ofsted 2013).

Aims:

- To explore the richness and diversity of the School and its community
- To develop tolerance and understanding of faiths and beliefs
- To promote positive images of people - their faith, beliefs, traditions, colour, culture, language and history, in the wider community and around the world.
- To develop each pupil's positive self-image.
- To reflect on, analyse and evaluate faith, beliefs, values and practices, and communicate responses.

Entitlement

The children will be given the opportunity to be taught about the principle religions represented in Britain: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism. The school will mainly follow the Staffordshire agreed syllabus for R.E.

The following attainment targets will act as the basis for planning and teaching:

AT1: Learning about religion – (explaining the meaning of religious language, stories, symbolism; explaining similarities/differences.)

AT2: Learning from religion – (give informed responses to religious and moral issues; reflect on one's own beliefs; identify and respond to questions of meaning).

Organisation

Each class will timetable a 1 hour R.E. lesson on a weekly basis.

Teachers will follow the Discover RE Scheme of work. There will be an integrated approach when teaching the two attainment targets.

The teaching of R.E. should remain objective and educational in its approach. It should also attempt to contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, regardless of their faith and beliefs.

Resources

A Resource bank will support the Discover RE scheme All teachers will use I.C.T./Media to enhance pupil understanding of R.E.

Assessment

Coverage of R.E. will be tracked through the half-termly plans.

Assessment of pupil achievement will also be covered by adhering to the school's marking policy. An overall assessment will be made in the end of year report.

Each study unit will be evaluated against stated learning intentions. Monitoring

The monitoring of R.E. will take place on a half termly basis by the R.E. subject leader. This will be achieved by:

- Checking planning against the scheme of work.
- The monitoring of R.E. books.
- The monitoring of R.E. display in and around the school.
- Verbal or written feedback will be given highlighting positive practice and suggestions for improvement.

Equal Opportunities

As set out in the Aims, the teaching of R.E. will reflect the whole religious community. Children from all backgrounds and gender will be encouraged to express their opinions. Through the school's resources and the Guest Speakers, positive images of all faiths are taken into account.

Community Links

The school is committed to offering active learning with practical first hand experiences for all pupils.

This may be achieved through visits to local places of worship and talks by guest speakers from local community faith groups.

Collective Worship

Whole school assemblies for collective worship will take place four times weekly. A timetable is in place for Key Events and Festivals. These will be led by individual year groups.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents do have the right to request withdrawal from Collective Worship and Key Religious Events. A register of withdrawal is kept by the Head Teacher. Parents will be invited to discuss individual requirements with the Head Teacher.