



The Ridgeway CE Primary School



'Building for Life'

Religious Education Policy

Introduction

At the Ridgeway CE Primary School Religious Education has an important part to play in expressing our Christian Vision – *Building for Life*. RE promotes understanding of people of who have faiths and range of world views and contributes to developing caring, respectful, reflective individuals. Individuals who have a knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices and who are outward looking. RE is afforded the same high profile as any other curriculum subject within the school.

Aims and objectives

The purpose of RE is to teach children about the religious and non-religious world-views that they will encounter in modern Britain. Teaching is sequential and enables children to build their knowledge progressively. The curriculum engages children with core concepts and questions, we want our children to enter into meaningful debates, to explore a range of religions and world views and to foster respect for others. Our objectives in the teaching of RE are, for all of our children:

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.
- To explore their own religious or non-religious, spiritual and philosophical ways of living, believing and thinking.

Where possible children will have opportunities to visit places of worship and to encounter believers. Teaching will use a variety of resources and styles to cater for the needs and progress of

all pupils and learners. Regular opportunities to reflect, analyse and interpret will be provided. Where appropriate cross curricular links will be made. In addition to developing children's religious literacy the RE curriculum contributes to British Values and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Learning will encourage the development of attitudes such as self-awareness, respect for all, tolerance, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder.

Curriculum

The RE curriculum has been developed to meet the expectations of the Locally Agreed Syllabus and the Church of England Statement of Entitlement for RE. This delivered through the Oxfordshire Diocesan scheme of work and supported by resources from Understanding Christianity.

Whilst Christianity forms the main component in our programme of study, the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus also requires the study of Judaism in Key Stage 1, with the addition of Hinduism and Islam in Key Stage 2. In the Foundation Stage, the exploration of religion is conducted through careful planning in the areas of Personal, Social and Emotional and Developing and Understanding the World. In addition to the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus resources such as Understanding Christianity are also used.

Assessment and Recording

Assessment procedures will follow those of the agreed syllabus and the school's assessment and feedback procedures. As a school we recognise that not everything taught in RE can be assessed but opportunities are provided for pupils to demonstrate what they have learnt about religions and what they have learnt from their work. This assessment can take place through a variety of methods such as questioning, observation, discussion or written work.

Monitoring and review

The RE subject leader and SLT will monitor teaching and learning in RE in accordance with school policy. The RE subject leader will observe teaching, conduct book and planning reviews and pupil interviews when appropriate to assess the quality of teaching and learning. The head teacher and governors will ensure that adequate monitoring takes place and that the impact of such activity is assessed.

Resources

The RE subject leader will ensure that RE resources are kept up-to-date and that staff are informed when new resources are purchased or made available electronically. Resources will include source materials (e.g. Bibles, visitors, artefacts) where appropriate and be treated with respect by all staff.

The Right of Withdrawal

Children may be withdrawn from RE or part of RE by a parent or guardian and teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers will feel comfortable with the type of religious education being taught at this school. Parents who wish to withdraw their children must provide written notification to this effect.