

R.E. Policy

Parish Primary School

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PARISH
CE Primary School

Building Learning, Friendships and Faith.

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Introduction

At Parish School we value our Christian ethos, together with the sense of history and pleasant working environment which our buildings and attractive grounds provide. In this secure and happy setting, we encourage each individual to reach their potential-intellectually, socially, spiritually and morally.

As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England School we are required by law to provide RE for all children in accordance with the local Agreed Syllabus, which states that 5% of teaching time is to be spent on R.E.

Aim

At Parish School we ensure all children to have equal access to R.E. We aim to contribute to the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and intellectual development of all our children by helping them to learn about religion and from religion. We encourage children to learn to respect and value people of other faiths, cultures and creeds.

Programme of Study

Introduction

The programme of study has been drawn up in line with the Bromley Agreed Syllabus and is supported by Diocesan materials. As a Christian school 2/3 of the Religious Education curriculum is dedicated to the study of Christianity. However, there is no expectation for children to become committed Christians. Dedicated Religious Education lessons start in EYFS where R.E. is also linked closely to the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Using the Agreed Syllabus, teachers use a variety of teaching strategies, appropriate to the age and ability of the children, to make R.E. lessons interesting and enriching experiences. Visitors and visits to local churches and other places of worship are arranged annually to engage the children with their R.E. learning. Teachers use enquiry questions to ensure both learning about and learning from religion are covered, and to encourage children to think deeply about what they are investigating. This ensures that work is challenging and aids children's progress.

Learning about religion (AT1)

The majority of our R.E. teaching covers the basic concepts of Christianity. In addition we will help the children to begin to build a coherent picture of Judaism, Islam, Sikhism and Hinduism. The information they receive will help them to explain the meaning of some of the religious language, story and symbolism contained within these religions.

Learning from religion (AT2)

By relating our teaching to the children's own experience, we help them to begin to formulate and express their own informed responses to religious and moral issues and questions of meaning. We also encourage them to reflect on what can be learnt from other religions in the light of their own beliefs and experience, and to develop their own spirituality.

Skills and Attitudes

We expect the children to demonstrate the skills of reflection and empathy, which are central to R.E., as well as general learning skills. We promote attitudes of fairness, respect, self-understanding and interest in the subject, in order to help the children to enter fully into their study of religions and their learning from them.

Throughout the curriculum there are many opportunities for children to develop Religious Education skills which contribute to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural understanding. These include: -

- Thinking theologically and exploring ultimate questions
- Recognising that faith is a particular way of understanding and responding to God and the world
- Respecting those of all faiths in their search for God
- Reflecting critically on areas of shared belief and practice between different faiths
- Enriching and expanding their understanding of truth
- Developing the skills to analyse and interpret religious texts including the Bible
- Reflecting critically and expressing their views on the human quest and destiny
- Analysing and explaining the varied nature and traditions of the Christian community, reflecting on the truth claims of Christian belief so that they can make well-informed responses to Christianity

Assessment and Marking

Assessment

Children are assessed across the year, in both Attainment Target 1 and Attainment Target 2. Samples of work are collected and level descriptors are used to assess the children's attainment. These levels are used to move children's learning on and identify gaps in their understanding. The Religious Education Leader is responsible for the monitoring of attainment in R.E. across the school and ensuring that children are making progress.

Marking

Marking is focussed around the learning objective, and formative and summative feedback is given by the teacher to move the learning on. Work is marked in accordance with the school's marking policy.

Parent's Rights

Parents retain the right to withdraw children from RE lessons although they should realise that Christian values permeate the whole life of the school. Parents are strongly encouraged to meet with the Head Teacher and the R.E. subject leader beforehand to discuss any request for withdrawal.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the R.E. subject leader, the Head Teacher and the Senior Leadership Team. The policy statement will be reviewed every three years.