



Thurlaston CE (Aided) Primary School
Teaching and living the Christian way of life

Religious Education Policy

Approved: February 2018

Signed

Review Date: February 2021

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Teaching and Living the Christian Way of Life

Introduction

Religious Education is an important part of the school curriculum and has equal standing with other foundation subjects. It is taught according to the terms of the Trust Deed of the school and reflects the doctrines of the Church of England, while introducing children to other world religions. Reference is made to guidance from the Diocese of Leicester and the government.

We believe that our teaching of religious education should seek to develop children's knowledge, understanding and awareness of Christianity and other principal religions represented in our country and help the children to reflect on this and the big questions in life.

Aims and Objectives

- To give children the experience and language which will help them to develop knowledge, concepts and an understanding of religious beliefs held by people.
- To stimulate an interest in learning about worship, festivals, rituals and other expressions of religious life and practice.
- To introduce children to the lives of key figures in Christianity and other world faiths, and to how people have responded to their teaching and example.
- To help children to understand and respect how religious beliefs and values affect ways of living.
- To foster children's feelings of awe, wonder, delight and mystery and an awareness of a spiritual dimension to their lives.
- To help them face and learn from life experiences which they may encounter such as loss, fear and suffering.
- To develop in children a reflective and caring approach to life.
- To help children develop confidence to express their own thoughts, questions and ideas about religion and to engage sympathetically, constructively and critically with others.
- To prepare children for life in modern Britain.

Time allocation

Children spend between 36 and 45 hours per year on RE dependent upon age. The teacher chooses how that time is allocated and may teach weekly lessons or combine lessons and teach a unit as a block of work.

Planning

RE is planned with a 2 year rolling programme in year R and year 1; in year 3 and year 4; and in year 5 and year 6. Year 2 is taught as a single year group each year. The Understanding Christianity Materials and the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus are used. See appendix a.

Special Needs and Differentiation

Work is planned to provide for a wide range of pupil ability and experience in each class. Where necessary additional resources are provided, including Learning Support Assistants, but more often differentiation is by support and outcome. More able pupils are challenged to question and research in more depth and use deeper thinking skills. Access to the curriculum is provided for all pupils. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from RE and Collective Worship. School would welcome the opportunity to discuss the situation with parents before them using this right.

Assessment

Assessments and records have been devised to link to the scheme of work. All pupils are assessed at the end of each unit of work by observation, discussion, work produced etc. Records are collated and tracked by the RE Subject Leader. RE is reported to parents in the children's annual report.

Appendix a

RE Long Term Plan - Leicestershire syllabus and **Understanding Christianity** units.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Class 1 2017-18	F1 - Which stories are special and why?	Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?	F3 - What places are special and why?	F5 - Being special, where do we belong? Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?	Why is the word God important to Christians?	F6 - What is special about our world?
Class 2 2018-19	1.7 What does it mean to belong to a faith community?	1.3 Why does Christmas matter?	1.4 What is the good news Jesus brings?		1.5 What makes some places sacred?	
Class 2	1.3 Who is Jewish and what do they believe?		1.1 What is God like?	1.5 Why does Easter matter?	1.2 Who made the world?	
Class 3 2017-18	2a.2 What is it like to follow God?	2a.4 What kind of world did Jesus want?	2a.3 What is the Trinity?	2a.5 Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?	L2.4 Why do people pray?	
Class 3 2018-19	L2.8 What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?		L2.9 What can we learn from religions about deciding what is right and wrong?	2a.6 When Jesus left what next?	2a.1 What do Christians learn from the creation story?	L2.6 Why do some people think that life is a journey and what experiences mark this?
Class 4 2018-19	U2.1 Why do some people think God exists?	2b.2 Creation and science: competing or complementary?	2b.8 What is the kingdom of God? OR 2b.5 What would Jesus do?	2b.6 What did Jesus do to save human beings?	U2.6 What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?	
Class 4 2019-18	2b.1 What does it mean if God is holy and loving?	2b.3 How far does following God bring freedom and justice?	U2.7 What matters most to Christians and Humanists?		2b.4 Was Jesus the Messiah?	U2.3 What do religions say to us when life gets hard?

