

RE Curriculum Statement

Curriculum Intent

At St Mary and All Saints CE Primary School, Religious Education (R.E) plays an important role in our curriculum and school life which is taught either weekly or as a block each half-term. R.E. enables our children to explore and question spiritual and religious experience and search for a sense of belonging, meaning and purpose in life and aims to develop religious literacy.

Our RE Curriculum will take pupils on a journey through a range of concepts driven by three core strands: Beliefs and questions, Community and identity and Reality and truth. These strands will create connections between substantive and disciplinary knowledge, and the units will include opportunities for the development of personal knowledge. The aim is to develop curiosity in pupils and equip them for future learning about, as well as enabling them to make sense of, the complex world of religious and non-religious worldviews.

Beliefs and questions will focus on theology, looking at the core beliefs and diverse interpretations of text, symbols and teachings of the chosen religions and worldviews.

Community and identity will focus on Human and Social Science and using data and other sources to examine practices and human expressions of religious and non-religious beliefs.

Reality and truth will focus on philosophy and ethics, looking at how people decide what is true and reliable drawing on the worldviews covered in the other units. It is in these units that pupils will have the opportunity to explore the wider concept of what a worldview is and how people reach these ideas.

Concepts and Disciplines in the Scheme of Work



Our R.E. curriculum is centred around using a termly ‘big question.’ These help to spark the children’s curiosity and give them the opportunity to discover, explore and consider different answers to these questions. They learn to develop and express their own insights and beliefs in response, and to agree or disagree respectfully with the views and beliefs of others. They will learn about different religious and non-religious beliefs and practices that influence and shape our community and culture today. We aim for a good balance between theology, philosophy and human science. As children progress, they will be able to talk about and understand a range of religions and worldviews which will enable them to explain and analyse beliefs and practises, recognising the diversity which exists within our community. To provide enrichment opportunities alongside our R.E. curriculum, we visit churches

[AT1] in our local community to explore the different features and have visits from local clergy to broaden our understanding of church practices.

Curriculum Implementation

At St Mary and All Saints CE Primary School, there is an emphasis on the teaching of Christianity as a world faith. Our curriculum draws pupils into deeper understanding of the Bible, explores how Christian belief and practice are shaped, makes connections with other areas of belief and understanding, and encourages reflection, evaluation and application.

The core concepts fit into a spiral curriculum, whereby concepts are revisited and explored in greater depth as pupils move through the school. For the concept of incarnation, in the EYFS pupils learn about the first Christmas and that Christians believe that Jesus was a special baby. By the end of KS1, pupils understand that Christians believe that Jesus's birth was unique and that he is God, come in human form. In Year 3, pupils learn about the Trinity (one God who has three persons the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and by the end of KS2 that Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah promised by God to restore the relationship between God and mankind that had been broken by the fall of Adam and Eve.

In addition to our exploration of Christianity, our curriculum support the teaching of other religions and worldviews. In Key Stage One, Judasim is taught alongside Christianity and in Key Stage 2 Islam and Hindusim are explored. Again children have the opportunity to investigate core concepts, beliefs and practices, make connections and reflect and develop an understanding, appreciation and respect for beliefs, values and customs that may differ from their own.

Depth will be developed largely, but not exclusively, through the teaching of Christian worldviews. Within each year group the concepts explored in the worldviews units will link with the Christianity units as well as developing ideas from the previous year's teaching.

Impact

Pupils will know more and be able to give an age-appropriate, coherent account of Christianity and the other worldviews covered. They will be able to ask questions, use a range of sources and skills to explore the traditions taught and have developed curiosity about how and why people think and act. They will know that there is more to learn about religious and non-religious worldviews and have developed the skills to research further. Pupils will understand that there are different ways of interpreting texts, and that different people reach different conclusions about what is true, good, right, and wrong.

The impact of the teaching of RE is assessed in a number of ways. At the end of every unit of RE the children are assessed through discussions, feedback and marking of their work to give us an accurate picture of their knowledge and understanding of core concepts, beliefs and practises. This assessment will then inform future planning that will address the needs of all pupils and provide scaffolding, targeted questioning and enriching activities.