



Oaklands Community Primary School Religious Education Policy

Aims and Objectives

Religious Education enables children to raise challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

R.E. in our school aims to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths. We enable children to develop a sound knowledge of world religions, especially those that are the main faiths of children within our school.

Children need to develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities and cultures so they can make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues. Children need to be able to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences with respect and sensitivity for all people. The children learn *from* religions as well as *about* religions.

Teaching and Learning

We follow the Somerset agreed syllabus – Awareness, Mystery and Value (AMV). Specified units are taught in each Key Stage to ensure coverage of main religions, with a focus on Christianity. The units delivered by each year group can be seen in our long-term planning document.

Each unit has a detailed medium term plan which details the activities and resources for each session. Key facts and key vocabulary that children need to know by the end of each unit are listed on the plans. The 2019 planning and resources, produced by Somerset AMV, remains a useful tool when delivering R.E. as it provides a good structure and direction for each individual unit. The assessment documents provide a summary of what children should know by the end of each unit and can also be used as a guide to supplement planning.

The agreed syllabus, assessment and planning documents can be accessed via the Public Drive.

Key skills in R.E.

R.E. is more than just developing children's knowledge and understanding of religions. It also provides opportunities for children to develop key skills such as: investigation, interpretation, reflection, empathy, evaluation, analysis, synthesis, application, expression and self-understanding.

Children are encouraged to ask 'big questions' and 'wonder' about their world. They are encouraged to become part of their learning process by recognising their existing knowledge, discussing research methods, becoming 'information gatherers' and thinking critically about the validity of their sources.

These skills can be developed through a variety of teaching styles including art and drama, the use of religious artefacts, quiet time for reflection, visits to local places of worship and workshops delivered by visitors from faith communities.

Assessment and Recording

Evidence of written work, discussions and ideas are recorded in topic books or class floor books. Children’s progress is monitored regularly and assessed against their year group expectations.

Resources

There are boxes of artefacts and books for the main religions which are kept in resource boxes at the end of the main corridor. Optional extra books can be ordered through Resources for Learning by the class teacher.

The R.E. folder, accessed via the Public Drive, has a wealth of resources relevant to the units covered in each year group. A paper copy of the R.E. folder is also kept by the R.E. coordinator. Somerset’s website, www.amvsomerset.org.uk, has extra resources and guidance.

Withdrawal from RE lessons

Parents have the right to request that their child is removed from all or part of the RE provided. This needs to be discussed and agreed with the Headteacher. Parents need to be made aware of the importance of RE, in teaching understanding and tolerance in our multi-cultural society, and that it is also taught in an objective way that is relevant to all pupils which respects their own personal beliefs.

Date: Autumn term 2020

Date of Review: Autumn term 2022

Signed: _____ *Kparr* _____ **(Headteacher)**

_____ *gjohnson* _____ **(Chair of Governors)**