



Philosophy

Our belief is that, by using an enquiry-based model well, children's critical thinking skills can be developed, their motivation to learn increased, and their knowledge and understanding of, and empathy with people and their beliefs, religious or otherwise, will be enhanced.

This approach takes very seriously the philosophy that children are free to make their own choices and decisions concerning religion and belief. RE does not try to persuade but rather to inform and develop the skills with which evaluation can take place.

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Principles

The teaching and learning of R.E will:

- Start from the pupil's own perspective and create space within learning in which the pupil's knowledge, ideas, attitudes, values, beliefs and spirituality are recognised and articulated
- Develop the pupil's use of language, reinforcing and introducing them to linguistic tools which will enable them to learn to think critically and express their developing idea, values, beliefs and spirituality
- Be enjoyable, encourage a love of learning and desire to engage in lifelong learning

Pupils will have the opportunity to:

- Build knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of Christianity and the other principal world faiths and to encounter the insights and understandings of other religious traditions and secular world views
- Focus and reflect critically on a range of visions, wisdoms and truth claims belonging to the world's religious traditions and secular views
- Explore right and wrong, morality and ethics, within religion and human experience
- Develop their own creativity and spirituality, and appreciation and spirituality of others
- Develop their own perspectives, conclusions and responses to the issues raised by religion and human experience

Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons. However, our preferred stance is that all children participate in Religious Education. Where parents are wishing to exercise their right to withdraw their children, at the first instance they should meet with the Head/ Deputy Head to discuss their concerns. If the matter cannot be resolved, parents need to put their request to withdraw from RE lessons in writing to the Governing Body. If pupils are withdrawn from RE, we would prefer parents to provide RE work that they would consider suitable to them in line with the curriculum objectives.

Procedures

- R.E at our school is taught through the Discovery RE Syllabus for Religious Education. This syllabus teaches children the skills and attitudes through a breadth of study that encompasses both minor and major modules; where teaching stimulates curiosity as well as develops children's sense of exploration and discovery.
- R.E is taught through two Attainment Targets; AT1: Learning about Religion and AT2: Learning from Religion. Both attainment targets are of equal importance to the teaching of R.E and are inter-dependant in the way in which we deliver and assess them.
- The National Curriculum Document recommends that R.E is taught for the following minimum hours in each Key Stage:
 - Foundation Stage: To be delivered through the Early Learning Goals
 - Key Stage 1: 36 hours per year
 - Key Stage 2: 45 hours per year
- R.E is timetabled to ensure the minimum teaching and learning requirement is met throughout the school. This is achieved through weekly lessons and/or festival weeks.

Performance

The teaching and learning of R.E will be monitored and assessed by the R.E Co-ordinator, up to three times a year. Both Attainment Target 1 (Learning about Religion) and Attainment Target 2 (Learning from Religion) will be assessed through work scrutinies, planning scrutinies and lesson observations. The results of the process of Monitoring, Assessment and Evaluation will be used to improve the quality of the teaching and learning of R.E in our school (as indicated in the School Development Plan).

Continued support and guidance from the Wiltshire R.E advisor will ensure training needs of staff will be identified and suitable support will be given.

To Be Reviewed Autumn 2020