



Religious Education Policy

Love God, Love Learning, Love One Another

Philosophy

The values of the Christian Church are central to our practice at Brereton C of E School. Through a study of RE children will learn about Christianity and other religious beliefs and are encouraged to relate this knowledge to their own experiences. Religious Education is designed to help pupils understand the significance of religion and its contribution to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We endeavour that children should learn about and from religion and apply this learning to their own lives, beliefs, values and attitudes. Religious Education at Brereton challenges misconceptions and promotes respectful discussion and questioning. The teaching of Religious Education is enhanced by our acts of collective worship.

We place such significance on the importance of the teaching of Religious Education, it is taught for a full afternoon per week in addition to whole school RE focus days once per term.

Parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the Religious Education curriculum. In this event, the school will undertake responsibility for the supervision of withdrawn pupils with regard to health and safety, alternative work will be provided.

Aims

The teaching of Religious Education at Brereton C of E Primary School is designed:

- To show children that Christianity is about following the living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and is relevant to their daily lives.
- To contribute to the spiritual, social and moral development of the school as a caring community and the pupils as individuals.
- To encourage children to listen respectfully to the opinions and life style choices of others and reflect on their own beliefs and values in the light of their own learning in RE.
- Through study of major world religions to encourage an understanding and appreciation of the rich diversity of religious belief and practice in society today.
- To develop an enquiring attitude towards religion and to explore activities of prayer and worship.

Practice

- The children's entitlement is based upon the Chester Diocese scheme of work and is supplemented by ideas from 'Understanding Christianity'
- The scheme is firmly based in Christianity, but other faiths including Judaism, Islam and Hinduism are also taught across the year groups
- Teachers use a combination of whole class teaching, group work, paired work and individual work in implementing the Chester Diocese syllabus. The children often work cooperatively in Kagan teams when learning RE.
- Religious Education is taught throughout the school by the class teacher or RE lead and may be supported by clergy from local churches and visiting speakers.
- Religious Education will be intrinsically linked to our Collective Worship, underpinned by visits to St Oswald's Church and enhanced by the use of reflective areas in every classroom.
- Work in Religious Education will be given a high status in order to reflect the Christian nature of the school.
- In the main, Religious Education will be taught as a discrete subject although the approach may vary. For example in Key Stage 1 it may be more appropriate to integrate some areas of the Religious Study programme into a general topic with a thematic approach.
- Wherever possible all children will learn from primary source material as well as through the use of outside speakers with relevant experience and audio-visual aids.
- Visits to places of worship and drama workshops also support the work of Religious Education in school.
- We encourage finding time for children to be still and engage in quiet reflection and to work collaboratively with others.

Assessment

- We use a combination of formative and summative assessments for each area of learning taught to identify if a child is emerging, expected or exceeding. There are at least two summative assessments made per half term.
- Annual Reports indicate to the parents their child's attitude and achievements in RE.

Inclusion

We ensure that our objectives, materials, resources and organisation enable all children to access the RE curriculum. Much of the content of the curriculum is delivered in a mind friendly way and children are encouraged to respond in a variety of ways including, art, poetry, music, drama, dance, discussions and through their own behaviour.

Resources

Our resources are stored in a central resource area, in school house, to allow access for all members of staff. Each classroom has an RE focus area to facilitate reflection on RE topics and an RE class book to show the process of children's learning for each topic taught.

ICT

ICT is used in a variety of ways to stimulate children's response in RE. Children are also encouraged to visit websites to find out about topics in RE, including virtual tours of places of worship.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following relevant policies: Teaching and Learning/Assessment/Equal Opportunities/Collective Worship/Homework/Inclusion

This policy was ratified by the Curriculum Committee, after due consultation with staff in September 2018.

This policy will be reviewed in September 2021.