



Individually Strong, Collectively Stronger

Religious Education Policy



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Religious Education is a compulsory part of the curriculum and at Allen Edwards Primary School we aim to teach children to care for one another and to recognise and value each others' differences and similarities.

We celebrate the diversity of faiths within our school, by enabling the children to develop a sound knowledge of Christianity as well as other world religions.

Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We help the children learn from religion as well as about religions in accordance with the aims of the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus. (SACRE).

Particularly relevant to our school is the aim which states: Religious Education should help pupils to develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own and towards living in a society of many religions and beliefs.

AIMS

We aim to:

- Reflect the different faiths within and around the school community.
- Develop an understanding and respect of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures in the wider world.
- Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain, namely Buddhism, Sikhism, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism.
- Enable children to become active citizens in a pluralistic society.
- Develop children's spiritual, moral and cultural awareness of the fundamental questions of life experiences.
- Enable children to have access to a broad and balanced curriculum appropriate to their physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs.

OBJECTIVES

The following objectives will facilitate our aims for Religious Education. The children will:

- Develop a sense of wonder and an appreciation of the complexity of our world.
- Show an understanding of significant religions as expressed in sacred texts, rituals of worship and practice in daily life.
- Be able to comprehend and appreciate symbolic meaning and its use in a variety of religious traditions, according to the child's level of maturity and ability.
- Be able to enjoy an environment in which their interests, skills, knowledge and understanding of R.E can flourish.
- Be able to recognise and value their own and others' experiences.
- Respect the right of people to hold beliefs which are different from their own.
- Develop and recognise those values which underlie their life in school and beyond.



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LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the law we provide Religious Education for all pupils registered at the school. The teaching of R.E. comprises 5% of the curriculum timetable as required by the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus.

The RE syllabus should reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian and that it should, at the same time, take account of the teachings and practices of other major religions.

The school has a statutory obligation to teach R.E. to all children in full time education. However, parents wishing to withdraw their children from R.E. or Collective Worship (Reflection) are asked to see the Head Teacher.

- Key Stage 1 36 hours per year
- Key Stage 2 45 hours per year

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Planning for Religious Education is based on two Attainment Targets in the Agreed Syllabus:

- 1) *Learning about Religions*
- 2) *Learning from Religions*

We endeavour to draw on the varied experiences and backgrounds of our pupils and staff in order to make RE relevant and interesting to our pupils.

Our teaching styles will encourage:

- Collaborative and individual learning
- Discussion and recorded work
- Reflection and response
- Developing research skills using the internet, books, etc.
- Enquiry
- Expression (through artwork, poetry, dance, drama, writing, music, etc.)
- Empathy

CROSS-CURRICULAR LINKS

R.E. should make links with the whole curriculum where appropriate, whilst ensuring that its integrity as a subject is recognised.



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CONTENT AND PROGRESSION

We are following the Lambeth SACRE which covers the six major faiths, i.e. Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Judaism. The children acquire and apply knowledge and understanding of these faiths and learn how these religions influence individuals, communities, society and the world. The scheme of work covers the major issues and religions and ensures continuity and progression throughout year groups.

In the Foundation Stage religious education is an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. We relate the religious education aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five.

INCLUSION

Inclusion and differentiation for children with SEN and EAL are taken into account in our planning and teaching, as they are in all areas of the curriculum.

ASSESSMENT

R.E. is assessed in different ways:

- Child's response in class discussion
- Recorded work and evaluations
- Child's understanding of religious concepts

Teachers complete assessments as suggested in the Lambeth units, at the end of each half term, which is then used to inform future planning.

RESOURCES

We keep resources for religious education in a central store.

Resources for R.E. include:

- Reference material (books, posters, CD's)
- Artefacts from the 6 religions we teach
- Human resources (visiting speakers, parents, etc.)
- Visits to places of worship
- Espresso site and internet resources on all computers

Date: October 2017

Review Date: November 2019

Signed by Headteacher: Louise Robertson