



## RE Policy

### INTRODUCTION

Religious Education's place in the curriculum is an acknowledgement of the fact that religious beliefs and practices play an important part in the lives of many people world-wide. An understanding of religion can help children develop a better appreciation of themselves, the people around them and the world in which they live. The subject of RE is concerned with promoting, through Christianity and other religions, the pupils' search for values, meaning and purpose.

The Education Act requires that the religious education should be provided according to the "Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in West Sussex 2008". This document is available from the Academy.

#### **Knowledge, skills and understanding**

The knowledge, skills and understanding identify the key aspects of learning in religious education. These are described as **Learning about religion** and **Learning from religion**.

**Learning about religion** includes enquiry into, and investigation of, the nature of religion, its beliefs, teachings and ways of life, sources, practices and forms of expression. It includes the skills of interpretation, analysis and explanation. Pupils learn to communicate their knowledge and understanding using specialist vocabulary. It also includes identifying and developing an understanding of ultimate questions and ethical issues. Learning about religion covers pupils' knowledge and understanding of individual religions and how they relate to each other as well as the study of the nature and characteristics of religion.

**Learning from religion** is concerned with developing pupils' reflection on and response to their own and others' experiences in the light of their learning about religion. It develops pupils' skills of application, interpretation and evaluation of what they learn about religion. Pupils learn to develop and communicate their own ideas, particularly in relation to questions of identity and belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, and values and commitments.

## **AIMS**

Religious education actively promotes the values of truth, justice, respect for all and care of the environment. It places specific emphasis on:

- pupils valuing themselves and others,
- the role of family and the community in religious belief and activity,
- the celebration of diversity in society through understanding similarities and differences,
- sustainable development of the earth.

Religious education also recognises the changing nature of society, including changes in religious practice and expression and the influence of religion, in the local, national and global community.

## **BREADTH OF STUDY**

- Christianity is taught and comprises more than half the content
- Introductory courses on Hinduism, Islam and Judaism are taught
- Pupils are encouraged to share their own beliefs, viewpoints and ideas
- Pupils study how religions relate to each other, recognising both similarities and differences within and between religions

Pupils are encouraged to develop their self awareness, open mindedness, respect for all and appreciation and wonder.

RE promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## **INCLUSION**

RE provides opportunities and experiences for all children regardless of race, religion or gender. Learning opportunities are provided to match individual needs of children.

## **WITHDRAWAL**

Parents, guardians and carers have the right to withdraw their child from RE lessons. There are safeguards for teachers not wishing to participate in, or to conduct RE.

When parents, guardians and carers request that their child be withdrawn from RE it will be necessary to clarify the beliefs and practices that they wish their child to be excluded from.

Policy Reviewed By the Teaching & Learning Committee Jan 2014  
To be reviewed Jan 2017

## CURRICULUM ORGANISATION

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>AUTUMN</b>	<b>SPRING</b>	<b>SUMMER</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>What is RE? Church visit. The Nativity</b>	<b>Life and ministry of Jesus Christ</b>	<b>Ascension, Pentecost and stories from the Old Testament</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>The Bible - Sacred Text and Guide to Life</b>	<b>The Miracles of Jesus and The Story of Easter</b>	<b>Islam</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Hinduism</b>	<b>Belonging</b>	<b>Paul and Inspirational People</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Judaism</b>	<b>Creation Stories Care for the Environment</b>	<b>Heroes and Leaders</b>