



Curriculum Overview for Religious Education ~ October 2019

Intent

At Birkwood Primary School we believe that RE should be taught to all pupils, irrespective of social background, culture, race, religion, gender, differences in ability and disabilities. All children have an entitlement to learn, about and from, different faiths. We allow our children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom. Religious language use is ambitious and aspirational.

RE in school allows children to enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:

- developing awareness of the ultimate questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religions can relate to them;
- respond to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and other belief systems, relating them to their own understanding and experience;
- reflecting positively on their own identity, beliefs, values and experiences developing them as active and responsible citizens.

At school, RE promotes children to develop positive attitudes:

- by promoting shared values and to challenge racism and discrimination.
- of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and;
- towards living in and contributing to an inclusive and caring community and a society of diverse religions.

Implementation

As a school, we aim to ensure that all pupils make progress in RE by:

- Ensuring that legal teaching requirements time are adhered to: Key Stage 1: 36 hours of tuition per year. Key Stage 2: 45 hours of tuition per year.
- Ensuring teachers have a good knowledge of the subject and are supported by leaders to promote good teaching.
- Teachers plan and teach from the Locally Agreed Syllabus using specific religion for year group and answering 6 key questions throughout the year.
- Presenting inclusive teaching materials and allowing discussion time with peers and teachers to develop understanding.
- Key faiths for each year group have been identified to inform planning and overlap of content will be prevented.
- Links to P4C, RRS and PSHE.
- Formative assessment informs planning and teaching.
- Issues are dealt with as they arise, based on pupil needs.
- Opportunities to celebrate learning around school, in classrooms, Twitter and on the school website are fully embraced.
- RE curriculum is integral to daily life of school.

- Promoting aspirational vocabulary through the teaching of RE.
- Birkwood is an Open Futures Flagship School and P4C is taught regularly. This develops children's cultural capital, vocabulary, reasoning and appreciation of others' point of view. Pupils are taught to be open minded whilst thinking rigorously about supporting arguments with detailed examples, reasons and counterclaims.
- Birkwood has achieved the UNICEF Rights Respecting School Silver award.
- The happiness and healthiness of all pupils is paramount, therefore staff carefully respond to the needs of pupils as they arise.
- Whole School Collective Worship and Assemblies.
- RE displays presented throughout the school to showcase children's exemplary learning and promote religious knowledge.
- Trips are carefully planned to support and contextualise faith learning – close links to local parish church.
- Book monitoring ensures whole school consistency and exemplifies meaningful learning.

Impact

- Children at Birkwood are enthusiastic to learn about different religions from an early age.
- Teaching is exciting and children have a love for learning and for extending their knowledge and understanding of different religions.
- Speaking and listening skills are developed through religious enquiry, children are confident to discuss different faiths and their own beliefs with their peers and class.
- The children can apply their improved cultural literacy skills to all areas of the wider curriculum, future learning and employment.
- Children use aspirational vocabulary in RE lessons and apply these in other curriculum areas.

Summary Outcomes

- To ensure that everyone is celebrating RE and the diversity of the 6 faiths.
- To ensure that the legal requirements of teaching RE are followed.
- To ensure that teaching sequences follow the Locally Agreed Syllabus.
- To ensure teaching of the subject is effective across the school and children are able to develop prior knowledge of different faiths.
- To give teachers confidence in Religious Education through enhanced subject knowledge and, in doing so, create consistency and quality across school.
- To ensure the children build on prior knowledge and follow a logical progression of skills.
- Teachers assess children's knowledge and understanding in RE by making ongoing observations/feedback of the children working during lessons.
- Twice a year, foundation subject assessment grids are completed by class teachers and evaluated by the subject leader.

Areas for Action

- To ensure coverage of each faith is taught throughout school.
- Leader to drive subject ~ Vision, Rationale and Action Plan shared with staff.
- To ensure RE is documented and assessed using the website as evidence.
- To raise the profile of RE throughout school.