

RE

'The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.'

Martin Luther King Jr

Intent

Our intent in the teaching of RE is to provide an enquiry-led approach to RE learning from EYFS (Reception) to Year 6. We aim to cover 6 the world's principal religions including Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. As a Church of England primary school, each year group will study an element of Christianity and one, occasionally two, alternative religions. This provides children with the opportunity to gain deep and accurate knowledge of the belief systems and practices within different religions, supports quality discussion and offers scope to challenge and reshape misconceptions.

Implementation

Our annual plan (overview) for both year groups stems from 2 comprehensive teaching and learning resources: Understanding Christianity and Discovery RE. Understanding Christianity is published by the Church of England in partnership with a range of organisations. Discovery RE is published by Jan Lever Group and is the product of the author's career as a teacher and leader. Information about these resources can be found at <https://www.understandingchristianity.org.uk/> and <https://discoveryschemeofwork.com/faq-information-for-parents/>.

Our medium-term planning is sourced, by the Headteacher and RE leader for use by class teachers, from our school subscriptions to Understanding Christianity and Discovery RE materials. Since our school is based on mixed-year classes we operate a Year A and Year B model. It is expected that children receive at least one hour of discrete RE teaching and learning per week; this is further enhanced by our additional Collective Worship and PSHE (Jigsaw) sessions. Each classroom features a Reflection display/area which will contain information about, and prompts for, both current RE and Collective Worship learning. RE learning across each half term will include a high level of ideas sharing and discussion, stimuli, and creative response. These creative responses may include links to other areas of our curriculum.

Impact

Children will enjoy the challenge of a high level of quality and meaningful discussion during RE and develop secure knowledge about, and respectful attitudes towards, different religions. As Discovery RE express "the world our children live in is full of beauty but also full of confusion" and the sources we have chosen to shape our RE curriculum will help them "make sense of it". They will feel confident in developing their own spirituality and be supported in becoming sensitive, tolerant, and kind citizens in today's world.

RE will be delivered in a way that supports outcomes from our school's broader work with Ofsted and SIAMs, national British values and anti-radicalisation efforts and a philosophy of critical thinking and Growth Mindset.