

Curriculum Statement for Religious Education

Intent

What we aim to achieve:

At Red Oaks, we believe that Religious Education is a vital subject to teach children about the role and impact of religion in some people's lives both here and across the world. Our aim is to develop the pupils' knowledge and understanding of religious practices and beliefs, covering a range of different faiths. At Red Oaks, we intend to nurture and develop our core values of mutual respect and tolerance, specifically towards other people's beliefs and cultures. As part of this, we intend to continue to foster strong community links, with a number of religious centres in and around Swindon, which we can visit. Plus, each year we invite religious visitors to the school to engage with our pupils' in face to face Assemblies or workshops. We have developed greater links to the R.E. teaching in other schools, in both the Primary and Secondary schools within TPAT. At Red Oaks, we try to bring religions 'alive', by teaching R.E. in a cross curricular way, which includes lots of fun, practical tasks and discussions, in order to engage our pupils. In this way we aim for all our pupils to have a sound knowledge and understanding of some of the other principle religions in Great Britain today (Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Humanism), plus a healthy respect for those beliefs, practises and traditions too.

Implementation

How we will achieve this:

Red Oaks follows the Swindon Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. This scheme has enquiry questions designed for each year group, which link to three main strands of 'believing', 'expressing' and 'living' and which involve a range of religions or beliefs.

In order to make Religious Education a lively, practical and interesting subject we employ a variety of teaching methods and link to other curricular areas, such as art, music, literacy, history. We include discussions, speaking & listening tasks, P4C, debates, drama, design technology, assemblies, using artefacts/ props, pictures and stories. We organise visits to places of worship or invite guests in to school and we include periods of stillness for reflection. Wherever possible we try to make links with our whole school value and/or our class enquiry, plus religious festivals and events throughout the year. At least 5% of curriculum time is allocated to R.E. This will usually be taught through one R.E. lesson each week or sometimes as a planned day of R.E. once a half term.

The children will:

- Learn about and explore Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam & Humanism, through the Swindon agreed syllabus.
- Find out about the traditions of these religions and the rituals they have.
- Understand the sacred texts or books used by these religions and about how believers' worship or take part in prayers.
- Explore the sacred buildings used as places of worship, both inside and outside and the names they go by e.g. Synagogue, Church, Mosque, Temple etc.
- Discover more about the important festivals of these religions.
- Identify the similarities and differences of the religions.
- Understand the right for people to have their own beliefs/views and respect their choice.

Impact

How do we measure the impact:

The subject leader will ensure that both subject knowledge and skills are taught simultaneously through the monitoring of planning, carrying out learning walks, by pupil conferencing and by book scrutiny.

Each R. E. enquiry question has specific objectives or skills identified in the curriculum progression map for R.E. This enables teachers to measure the 'impact' for pupils in each year group, by assessing their learning and progress. Teachers can ascertain whether pupils have achieved the expected outcomes for their year group, or to identify those pupils who are 'working towards' those targets or to identify those who are working at 'greater depth'.