

Slimbridge Primary School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

The Nature and Purpose of RE

- To develop pupils' knowledge, understanding and awareness of Christianity as the predominant religion in Great Britain, extending the children's understanding of the other principal religions at Key Stage 2; Judaism, Hinduism and Islam.
- To know and understand religious beliefs, values, practices and lifestyles, and the part religion has played in the lives of individuals, societies, communities and cultures in order that pupil's own spiritual and moral development is promoted.
- To develop children's own beliefs, values and quest for meaning as they consider their own commitment in the light of other peoples.
- To encourage pupils' to foster positive relationships and attitudes such as tolerance and sensitivity towards others with beliefs different from their own as they express and explore their views openly and honestly, and encourage pupils' to be willing to listen to opinions which they may not share.
- To aim to avoid stereotypes wherever possible.
- To develop skills of observation, inquiry, interpretation, reflection and evaluation, as well as to recall and describe, and to encourage attitudes of sensitivity, empathy, reflection and response to promote spiritual development.
- To contribute towards children's full potential; spiritually, morally, socially and culturally within the ethos of the whole school.

Spiritual, Moral, Development

R.E. will play a major part in promoting pupils spiritual development and is relevant to all pupils regardless of their religious or non-religious background. 'It is open to everyone and is not confined to the development of religious beliefs or conversion to a particular faith'.

Spiritual development is the responsibility of the whole school and of the whole curriculum, through the explicit, hence provision is made for this in the critical pathways of objectives. It can also be implicit through actions, attitudes and values towards themselves, others and the world. Opportunities arise for spiritual development in the ethos of the school curriculum, subjects and collective worship.

The Spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences.

Entitlement

Parents have the right to withdraw children wholly or partly from RE. This school uses the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

Implementation

When Christianity is taught, reference should be made to the Anglican tradition where relevant.

The scheme of work reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian while taking account of the teaching and practices of other principal religions represented in Great Britain. Reference may be made to other faiths at the teacher's discretion.

Each study unit is taught cohesively except the unit on Religious Festivals, which will be taught annually by all year groups on a seasonal basis. Systematic teaching of each faith separately emphasises the integrity of each religion.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment should be made through a variety of means; observation, listening, questioning, setting tasks which require the use of key RE skills, higher order thinking skills, written tasks, discussion, self and peer assessment activities. Lessons or block of lessons will be assessed against the Learning objective and children's levels will be recorded.

Resources

- The Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus is available in office.
- Other resources are available in the staffroom.
- Gloucester Diocesan RE Resource Centre. 9 College Green. GL1 2LX (by the Cathedral). Tel 01452 385217. Goods will be delivered and collected from school.

- Where appropriate, we encourage visitors to enhance pupils' learning by coming in to share their faith.

Monitoring

The Governors will ensure that they and the school promote tolerance of and respect for people of all faiths (or those of no faith), cultures and lifestyles; and support and help, through their words, actions and influence within the school and more widely in the community, to prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain