

## Religious Education Policy Robert le Kyng Primary School



Religious Education is unique in the school curriculum in that it is neither a core subject nor a foundation subject but the 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils'

Robert le Kyng is a Community school therefore we deliver RE in line with the Locally Agreed Swindon Syllabus and use the Discovery RE programme as our scheme of work.

### **This RE policy is informed by current national guidance:**

RE in English Schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010

RE: realising the potential Ofsted 2013

A Curriculum Framework for RE in England, REC 2013

### **The aims of our RE, using the Discovery RE Scheme of Work**

Discovery RE meets the requirements of our locally agreed syllabus and is aligned to the non-statutory guidance described above. By following Discovery RE at Robert le Kyng Primary School, we intend that Religious Education will:

- Adopt an enquiry based approach as recommended by Ofsted, beginning with the children's own life experience before moving into learning about and from religion.
- Provoke challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong, commitment and belonging. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal religions, and religious traditions that examine these questions, fostering personal reflection and spiritual development.
- Encourage pupils to explore their own beliefs (religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of religious belief and faith and how these impact on personal, institutional and social ethics; and to express their responses.
- Enable pupils to build their sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society.
- Teach pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice.
- Prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.
- Develop a sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- Nurture children's own spiritual development.

### **Approaches to the teaching of RE**

In order to make religious education a lively, active subject we employ a variety of teaching methods including art, music, discussion, the development of thinking skills, drama, the use of artefacts, pictures, stories, and the use of periods of stillness and reflection.

Where possible we want our pupils to have opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of local faith communities.

Religious Education at Robert le Kyng is delivered in the following way:

In Year 1 pupils study Christianity and Judaism  
In Year 2 pupils study Christianity and Islam  
In Year 3 pupils study Christianity and Hinduism  
In Year 4 pupils study Christianity and Judaism  
In Year 5 pupils study Christianity and Sikhism  
In Year 6 pupils study Christianity and Islam

### **Assessment and monitoring of RE**

In line with the school policy on assessment and monitoring, it is expected that each teacher will be responsible for the regular assessment of his or her pupils through marking work set. Twice a year teachers will record children's performance based their written work and contributions to enquiry discussions through the year. In line with other subjects, this will be judged as working below, working at or working above age related expectations (ARE). These assessments will be used by the subject leader to track pupil progress through the school and will be used by the class teacher to ensure that each pupil is set work that is appropriately challenging.

The subject leader will monitor RE within the school through analysis of this assessment data, pupil voice and work/planning scrutiny.

### **The right of Withdrawal from RE**

At Robert le Kyng we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents, of course, have the legal right to withdraw their children from religious education on the grounds of conscience. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the headteacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision and practice of religious education at Robert le Kyng.

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