

Hildenborough Church of England Primary School.

Policy for Religious Education (RE)

Mission Statement

To be the best you can be, for yourself, for others and for God.

Introduction

Religious Education is an important part of our curriculum and meets the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act which states that "R.E. has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all pupils." Also by law, R.E. must focus mainly on Christianity, whilst taking account of the other principal religions in Great Britain. We use the Rochester Diocesan Scheme of Work to deliver the Agreed Syllabus and include aspects of Christianity appropriate to primary schools, as found in the Church of England's report on RE; "Excellence and Distinctiveness" (2005).

Time Allocation

- KS1 - a minimum of one hour a week.
- KS2- a minimum of one and a quarter hours a week.
- In the Reception Class RE, the Rochester Diocesan Scheme of Work is followed and then embedded through the prime and specific areas of the Early Years curriculum.

Aims

RE has a particular contribution to make towards the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural education of each pupil.

It involves-

- Learning about religion - Attainment Target 1 (AT1)
- Acquiring knowledge and developing an understanding of what religious people believe and do.
- Learning from religion - Attainment Target 2 (AT2)
- Developing an awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings can relate to them.
- Responding to questions with reference to the teaching and practises of religions.
- Reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences.

Programme of study.

- EYFS - the Agreed Syllabus is taught from Reception with Christianity as the main religion and other religions drawn on as appropriate.
- Key Stage One - Learning about and from Christianity predominates, with 2 of the 12 units on Judaism and 2 on Hinduism.
- Lower Key Stage Two- Learning is also predominately about Christianity, with 2 of the 12 units on Judaism and 2 on Islam.
- Upper Key Stage Two - Half of the syllabus is about Christianity with 2 units each on Judaism, Islam and Sikhism. (Sikhism is always taught in Year 6 as a transition to secondary school.)

Approaches

- From the time they enter the Reception Class, each child has a book specifically for RE. Different styles and strategies are employed to make RE a lively, active and creative subject. This includes the use of art, technology, ICT, music, drama and discussion.
- Distinctive skills related to RE are included when lessons are planned, these include enquiring, questioning, analysing, interpreting, empathising and reflecting.
- Each religion has a designated box of resources and the library has a section for books related to the various religions.
- St. John's Church is visited regularly (in addition to the school attending the church for seasonal services). The vicar comes into school for sessions relating to baptism and communion.

Assessment

- RE is planned and assessed using the levels for the two attainment targets.
- Marking is in line with the school's marking policy with the teacher marking for improvement at least once per unit.
- Levels are assessed and recorded by highlighting a record sheet in the front of each child's RE book.

Withdrawal

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or part of religious education but we encourage them to discuss this with the head teacher before coming to a final decision.

RE subject leader - Miss Jack Nixon

Responsible for: attending courses and informing staff; advising on resources; meeting with head teacher and foundation governors to discuss Self Evaluation toolkit; to liaise with link governor; to monitor learning to raise standards; to review policy and to inform governors of action plan .

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the subject leader, following discussions with the head teacher, other colleagues and foundation governors. Any amendments will be presented to the whole staff, before being presented to the whole Governing Body for adoption/ approval before implementation.

July 2015