

Religious Education

'I believe that religious education must be the sole concern of religious associations' – Mahatma Ghandi

<p>What do we love about our subject?</p> <p>RE is concerned with an exploration of the important aspects of life and what it's like to be human. We want to provide our pupils with opportunities to ask questions, seek answers and develop ideas in a quest to discover more about their own identity and that of others.</p> <p>RE lessons provide a context for the exploration of moral and ethical opinions and dilemmas by learning about lifestyles and behaviour. It can help our pupils to understand the power and meaning of belief and religion for individuals and communities in the United Kingdom and across the world.</p> <p>Fairfield Primary School is a happy and healthy place to learn, and RE can actively support this by providing an opportunity to learn about each other and celebrating our beliefs and choices.</p>	<p>How do we want pupils to talk about our subject?</p> <p>Within their learning in RE, our pupils develop specific attitudes that are open, reflective, and critical and a skill base which allows them to be curious, play with ideas, empathise, listen, imagine, question, make links and reason.</p> <p>Teaching and learning in Religious Education actively promotes mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.</p> <p>To learn about our similarities and differences is important to support our ethos. This gives children a chance to think about important questions like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who am I? • Why am I here? • How do I decide what is good?
<p>What are some of the big ideas in our subject?</p> <p>The 1988 Education Act states that 'the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of other principal religions in Great Britain'. This means that learning about Christianity takes up most of the religious education programme of study.</p> <p>The 2010 government's revised guidance for RE says that primary school pupils should learn about five other world religions and secular views, as well as Christianity. The idea is that this enables children in our multicultural society to understand and respect the beliefs of others.</p>	<p>How is our subject taught and organised so learning is retained in the long-term memory?</p> <p>The subject of RE is taught in line with recommendations laid down by the local authority. At Fairfield, RE is taught as a separate subject. We often teach the subject around a theme, which could be festivals, buildings or special books. Teaching in this way helps children to compare and consider everybody, ultimately leading to greater understanding and respect.</p> <p>We do not promote religion or a particular religion: children learn about all major religions and importantly, that some people choose to have no faith.</p>
<p>How do we enrich our subject?</p> <p>Weekly assemblies, technically termed 'daily acts of collective worship' promote values which will help our pupils+ to lead happy, healthy and harmonious lives. These values complement and reinforce all faiths; they tend to promote positive relationships and self-awareness, for example.</p> <p>Out of school visits to places of worship are planned to support the teaching of religious ideas and practices. Such visits prove to be enjoyable for pupils and information is usually well retained.</p> <p>Similarly, religious assemblies led by people in the community (local priest) help to bring religion alive through storytelling. These sessions help to develop an understanding of key events and contribute towards the core principles of British Values.</p>	<p>What do we want pupils to leave Fairfield being able to do?</p> <p>We want our pupils to learn about religion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop a knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and teachings • to explain meanings within religious language, story and symbolism • to develop a knowledge and understanding of religious practices and lifestyles <p>...and to learn from religion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to reflect on aspects of human nature, identity, personality and experience especially in the light of one's own beliefs and experiences to identify and respond to questions about the nature, meaning and purpose of life • to give informed and considered responses to religious and moral issues