



Fairfield Primary School

Religious Education Policy

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Education Act of 1996 states that religious education should be provided for all registered pupils, although parents have the right to withdraw their child from lessons. RE within Fairfield Primary School is taught according to the [Leicestershire agreed syllabus](#). This syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and traditions of the other main religions represented in Great Britain.

AIMS

To assist and encourage all pupils to explore and express their own response to the spiritual and religious approach to life by enabling them to:

- ❖ acquire and develop an understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain.
- ❖ understand how religious beliefs and values affect ways of living (and therefore contribute to breaking down misunderstanding and instead encourage respect in society between people who do not share the same religious and cultural backgrounds).
- ❖ develop an increasingly reflective and caring approach to life.
- ❖ gain an awareness of the spiritual awareness of life.

OBJECTIVES

For all pupils to:

- become increasingly familiar with key stories and ideas from the Christian and other faiths, including aspects of tradition and worship.
- develop the capacity to form relationships based upon love, empathy, forgiveness and consideration by developing sensitivity towards moral and spiritual values.
- enhance and clarify their own ideas and responses to religion by developing self-expression, confidence and an enquiring and reflective attitude to the world around them.
- acquire a more detailed knowledge of the life and teaching of Jesus and some other leading figures of the world religions.
- become aware of the importance of the spiritual dimension in their own experience and in the experiences of other individuals and communities.
- acquire a basic understanding of the place of religion in the world and its relevance to personal, social and moral issues.

ENTITLEMENT

All pupils are to have access to the RE curriculum (unless specific permission has been sought by parents to exclude their child). Personal beliefs, attitudes and backgrounds of pupils and the integrity of the subject itself will be respected at all times. We recognise that pupils bring a wealth of

cultural experience into the school community and that knowledge of a child's religious background is important so any dress, diet and holiday needs can be respected. Teachers will deliver a broad and balanced curriculum so that pupils also develop an awareness and respect for the diverse society in which we live, for the many different groups in that society and the contributions they make.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

All pupils at Fairfield will have access to the Religious Education syllabus regardless of gender, race, class and physical, intellectual or sensory ability. To facilitate this, it is important not to assume prior knowledge or experience dependant upon belonging to a particular faith community. We ensure that expectations do not limit pupils' achievements and the assessments do not involve any cultural, social, and linguistic or gender bias.

SEN

All pupils will be included in and will participate effectively in all activities within Religious Education regardless of their academic ability. Work set will be differentiated to enable all pupils to gain full access to the syllabus and fulfil their potential. Wherever possible, support will be available for those pupils who need it.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

All aspects of health and safety will be adhered to at all times with specific reference to risk assessments whenever pupils are taken of site.

PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

The RE curriculum will be planned by class teachers using the RE scheme of work. Wherever possible, pupils will visit other places of worship or have a visitor from a particular faith to gain a greater understanding of the work undertaken in the classroom. The RE coordinator will be available to give advice and support to teachers whenever necessary and to facilitate the gaining of resources needed to deliver the curriculum. The RE curriculum will be delivered through a combination of classroom activities, year group work, trips out, speakers invited into school and whole school assemblies (including seasonal festivals). The challenge of tasks will be increased through Key Stage 1 and 2 by asking pupils to interpret, analyse, evaluate and reflect on what they learn rather than simply write descriptively, reiterate stories or record pictorially.

Assessment of the children at Key Stage One and Two will focus on their subject knowledge and responses to RE work rather than their individual beliefs. All assessments will be recorded in the cohort folder set up for all year groups within the school.

EARLY YEARS

The Reception Unit at Fairfield School follows the Foundation Stage curriculum which is divided into six areas of learning. RE is included in year group assemblies and Understanding of the World and will be mainly Christian based but will include work on family, belonging to a community and also specific focus topics (for example, a Hindu wedding).

ROLE OF THE COORDINATOR

The day to day support for teachers delivering the RE curriculum is provided by the coordinator who will also:

- devise, maintain and adapt the scheme of work.
- support teachers in their short and medium term planning.
- attend relevant in-service training and report back to staff.

- manage the resources for RE.
- monitor and review the delivery of RE within the school with specific reference to the school improvement plan.

Policy	<i>RE Policy</i>
Last Reviewed	<i>May 2016</i>
Ratified by Governing Body	<i>June 2016</i>