



Chilton Academy
Religious Education Policy
2021

Aims

Religious Education is an important element in the broad and balanced curriculum we aim to provide at Chilton Academy. Through our RE curriculum we provide opportunities to develop children's knowledge and understanding of world religions and reflect on the challenging questions that it provokes.

The aims of religious education are:

To develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other religions and consider how the beliefs of others impact on their lives and the lives of others.

- To encourage children to ask and reflect on challenging questions.
- To provide opportunities for personal reflection where children can explore their own beliefs (not necessarily religious).
- To encourage children to appreciate and respect the different cultures in today's society.

Legal requirements

The RE curriculum forms an important part of our school's spiritual, moral and social teaching. Our school RE curriculum is based on the Durham Local Authority's (LA) Agreed Syllabus and it meets all the requirements set out in that document. The Education Act 1996 states that an Agreed Syllabus must reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. It must be non-denominational and must not be designed to convert pupils to a particular religion.

Planning

At Chilton Academy we plan our RE based on the Durham LA's agreed syllabus. The long and medium term plans ensure that there is progression throughout the school and that children are building upon knowledge learnt in previous years. The topics are designed so that pupils develop knowledge and understanding of the principal religions in Great Britain and Christianity is taught as a core religion in both key stages.

Our bespoke RE curriculum allows children to see the similarities within the major religions and make connections. Each year group will use festivals in a variety of religions.

We recognise that within classes, there is a wide variety of abilities and so we provide suitable learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of all children. This is done through providing support, differentiating activities and using a range of teaching and learning styles within lessons.

Where possible, teaching will be supplemented with trips to places of worship or visits from people from religious communities.

The three elements of RE are indicated as follows:

Knowledge and Understanding of Religion, Critical Thinking and Personal Reflection

- Children in Key Stage 1 are able to **identify** some beliefs and features of religion.
- Pupils in Lower Key Stage 2 can **describe** some of the beliefs and features of religion.
- Pupils in Upper Key Stage 2 will demonstrate **understanding** of some of the beliefs and features of religion through the RE concepts.

Foundation Stage

Religious Education is provided to all pupils at Chilton Academy In the foundation stage, RE is linked to the Early Learning Goals and

provides children the opportunity to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects.

Assessment and Recording

The standard of work in RE is expected to reflect the targets of children in the core subjects. Displays of children's work in RE are also encouraged.

We assess children's work in religious education by making informal judgements as we observe them during lessons. We mark a piece of work once it has been completed and we comment as necessary. Teacher use the outcomes of each lesson to inform future planning and note any areas of particular interest shown.

On completion of a unit of work, we make a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the expectations of the unit. We record the progress on skills sheets for assessment, which we use as a basis for assessing the progress of each child, for setting new goals, and for passing information on to the next teacher at the end of the year.

Date of policy: November 2021

Signed : K.Dunn

Right of Withdrawal

According to the Education Act 1996 and the School Standards and Framework Act 1988 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of Religious Education lessons. From Sept 2008 parents have been informed of this right through the school brochure.

Adopted by Governing Body 18.11.21