



Corvedale C of E Primary School

Religious Education Policy

'Love the Lord God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself.'

(Luke 25:10)

Aims and Objectives

At Corvedale C of E Primary School, we believe that learning about and learning from religions is a key skill in becoming a tolerant and thoughtful British citizen. As a Church school we place a high value on our Christian values and these underpin the RE curriculum that is taught here.

"The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living." Shropshire Agreed Syllabus, 2021.

Teaching and Learning

At Corvedale C of E Primary School, we have used the Agreed Syllabus for Shropshire as the basis for our planning. The children are taught how to:

- develop an awareness that many people believe human life depends upon an ultimate being or sustaining creative power often referred to as God.
- develop an awareness, understanding and appreciation of the broad religious, spiritual and ethical heritage of their immediate and global communities
- reflect upon the experiences and the mysteries of life and recognise the significance of awe and wonder in religious belief.
- develop children's knowledge, awareness and understanding of Christianity as the predominant religion studied.
- develop their knowledge, awareness and understanding of a balance of other religions. A spiral curriculum approach ensures the children learn about Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism in focussed units of work at different ages. Within our planning model there is space and flexibility to explore beliefs and practices in other religious traditions, including non-religious beliefs, through thematic units such as 'How and why do people mark the significant events of life?'
- encourage respect for other people's religions and beliefs.
- foster and encourage children's spiritual, moral, cultural development

Curriculum Organisation

The long-term planning of RE demonstrates when different key questions are explored – where possible linking with other curriculum areas. We use the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus 2021-26 unit plans which are supported by Understanding Christianity materials and additional units for other religions. RE is taught every week. Care is taken to ensure that children in KS1 and KS2 receive the equivalent of 1 hour of RE each week. Our Nursery and Reception children are taught within the EYFS curriculum and a major focus on their learning is Personal, Social and Emotional Development – within this context children are supported to develop the skills needed to express their own opinions, reflect on their own ideas and listen respectfully to the views of others. Within the context of Understanding the World opportunities are planned for the Reception children to explore their own experiences and those of others.

Assessment, Record Keeping and Recording

We assess children's work in RE by making informal judgements as we observe, question and listen to them during each RE lesson. On completion of a unit of work, the teacher assesses the children's progress and understanding. A comment is made in the end of year report on children's progress in RE.

Parents' Rights of Withdrawal

Parents and carers have the right to request the withdrawal of their child from R.E. and collective worship. The parent/carer can request that their child be withdrawn from school to receive R.E. elsewhere providing the L.A. is satisfied this will not interfere with school attendance.

The school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn by its parent from R.E., unless the child is lawfully receiving R.E. elsewhere.

Consideration of the Need to Respect all Belief & Non-Belief

Part of the attitudes and values we are aiming to encourage is the respect of a person's beliefs. The school has a responsibility to teach the importance of respecting a person's right not to believe. Our aim is to give the children the knowledge, skills, concepts and attitudes that will enable them to acquire their own beliefs.

Equal Opportunities and Special Educational Needs

We recognise the fact that in all classes there are children of widely different abilities in RE, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this by:

- setting common tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting appropriately differentiated tasks;
- providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child;
- using carefully differentiated questions.

All pupils will have equal access to the RE curriculum.

We also recognise that children who do not always excel in written tasks may have exceptional contributions to make in RE. We plan opportunities for non-written outcomes in order to celebrate the gifts of all in this subject.

Resources

We have a small bank of resources in our school which support the teaching and learning of RE. We use the Understanding Christianity materials and RE Today additional unit plans to support the teaching of other religions. We have access to excellent online resources e.g. BBC video clips. We have access to Hereford Diocesan resources.

Review of RE Policy

This policy has been written with reference to the relevant school policies, the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus (2021), the EYFS curriculum and guidance from LA. The RE co-ordinator has collated the corporate views of head, governors and staff in compiling this policy and it will be reviewed in 2024 or in the light of new legislation.

February 2022

Signed **Jonathan Brough**

Headteacher

Signed **Reverend John Beesley**

on behalf of the Governing Body.