

Religious Education Curriculum Statement:

Balshaw Lane Community Primary School

INTENT

At Balshaw Lane Community Primary School, we believe that it is important for all our pupils to learn from and about religion, so that they can understand the world around them. The aim of Religious Education in our school is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain; to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We follow the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2021) 'Searching for Meaning'.

The aims of religious education are to help children:

- develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences;
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions and value systems found in Britain;
- develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition;
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life;
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
- develop investigative and research skills and to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues;
- have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society.

It plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas, particularly PSHE, in promoting social awareness and understanding in our children. We encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. We include and promote British values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens. Our curriculum is designed to encourage creativity, imagination, enquiry, debate, discussion and independence.

IMPLEMENTATION

We use the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2021) 'Searching for Meaning' created by Lancashire SACRE. This revised syllabus is the legal basis for Religious Education in Lancashire. It is ambitious for all pupils and outlines the curriculum intent and methods of implementation that will enable all pupils to achieve well and attain high level outcomes by the end of each Key Stage. The syllabus aims to support pupils' personal search for meaning as they explore what it means to be human. It continues to follow the Lancashire Field of Enquiry model, but also specifies knowledge and skills which build towards clear goals at the end of each key stage. This ensures that the curriculum is progressive, clearly sequenced and suitably ambitious.

The following religions have been selected for study:

- Christianity • Islam • Judaism • Hinduism • Buddhism • Sikhism

EYFS: Christianity. Comparisons with other religions and worldviews which represent the school/ local community.

KS1: Progressive study of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. Encountering Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism and non-religious worldviews.

KS2: Progressive study of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. Encountering Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism and non-religious worldviews

There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds and beliefs and values of the children and the staff. We value the religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community. We are extremely lucky that members of the local Methodist Church visit our school regularly to deliver assemblies. We are also part of the Building Bridges Burnley partnership and we have several faith visitors delivering assemblies, workshops etc throughout the year. We acknowledge that each religion studied can contribute to the education of all our pupils. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for both staff and children.

IMPACT

The children at Balshaw Lane Community Primary School enjoy learning about other religions and why people choose, or choose not to follow a religion. Through their R.E. learning, the children are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world,

developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life. Religious education is monitored through a variety of methods to ensure that the children are receiving a consistent progression throughout the school. This is achieved through book looks, pupil voice and regular feedback each lesson. The children's knowledge is assessed through the Primary RE Progression Assessment grids created by Lancashire SACRE.