

Religious Visitors Policy



Our Aim

Our aim is to ensure that our pupils develop an awareness, appreciation and tolerance of individuals from a wide range of religious backgrounds. In order to achieve this, we feel that it is important that believers from different faith communities are welcomed into school. Religious visitors can make a powerful impact to children's learning in Religious Education and impact positively on their social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.

Our Curriculum

Delph Side is a Community primary school. We deliver RE in line with the Locally Agreed Syllabus from Lancashire County Council. We use the Discovery RE programme as our scheme of work. Discovery RE meets the requirements of our locally agreed syllabus and is aligned to the non-statutory national guidance. The RE curriculum is based upon an enquiry approach. Children are presented with provoking & challenging questions which encourage them to explore their own beliefs. In addition, children are encouraged to build their own sense of identity & belonging and develop respect for others.

Code of Conduct

As a school, we have adopted the code of conduct offered by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE):

The Code of Conduct

Religious visitors taking part in the life of a school should:

- be willing to share their own experiences, beliefs and insights, but avoid criticising the experience and insights of others and imposing their views upon pupils in any way
- be familiar with the school's aims, ethos and policies, and plan their involvement in the light of the aims and curriculum at the school
- seek to use engaging teaching and learning methods that involve the pupils actively, and to communicate at appropriate levels for the age groups concerned
- make clear to pupils who they are, who they represent, and what their aims are
- be willing to respect and value the faith of the pupils and adults in the school when it is different from their own
- develop ways of speaking to pupils that communicate their open approach, avoiding any hidden agenda to 'convert' or proselytise.

All religious visitors who are invited into school will be asked to read this code of conduct prior to meeting with pupils. All teaching staff will also be made aware of this prior to a visit. When a visitor is with the children, whether this be in an assembly or workshop format, a member of teaching staff will be present at all times. If this member of staff feels that the code of conduct is not being adhered to, they will stop the visit immediately.

This policy will be reviewed Autumn 2023