

Religious Education Policy

Legal Requirements

‘Religious Education must be taught to all registered pupils in maintained schools, including those in the sixth form, except to those withdrawn by their parents.’

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2011

RE is a subject covered within the school curriculum and takes up 5% of the annual total curriculum time which is delivered in flexible and creative ways.

The Place of RE in the Curriculum.

RE is an important subject in itself, developing an individual’s knowledge and understanding of the religion and belief which form part of contemporary society.

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2011

RE is a valued subject which welcomes the difficult questions about life, beliefs, God, right and wrong and what it means to be human. It develops the children’s knowledge and understanding of faiths represented in their local community and the wider world. RE allows children to learn about and challenge their own and each other’s beliefs and values in an unbiased and safe environment.

Although RE is a distinct subject it makes important contributions to other parts of the curriculum, e.g. PSHE, as well as developing higher order thinking skills, spiritual development and deep personal development.

The Aim of Religious Education

The aim of RE is that:

‘Primary educational legislation requires that all maintained schools provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum that promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society and prepare pupils at the school for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.’

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2011

At the centre of RE at Duke Street is the question, “What is it to be human?”. Through an enquiry based RE curriculum we intend to give the children the skills they need to rationally address this and many of the other big questions they will face throughout their lives.

It is not our intention to lead children to any specific faith but to use RE to encourage Duke Street pupils to learn and develop the positive attitudes of curiosity, wonder and appreciation, commitment, fairness and self-awareness. (Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2011) to the beliefs and values of others.

Implementation of the agreed syllabus of Religious Education

The staff and Duke Street will follow the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2011.

Religious Education at Duke Street will reflect and represent the religions found within the school community. It will also take into account the religions found in the immediate geographical area surrounding the school (locally) and beyond (nationally and globally). The staff at Duke Street will deliver 3 investigations of Christianity (God, Jesus and the Church) each year, as well as 2 other religions (apart from Reception classes who will only deliver 1 other religion.) Islam, Hindu Dharma, Judaism and Buddhism will be covered within the key stages.

Planning

Planning for Religious Education will follow the format which has been designed to incorporate the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education (2011). Planning will include evidence of both Attainment Targets 1 (Learning about Religions) and Attainment Target 2 (Learning from Religions). It will also cover the four elements of the Field of Enquiry (Shared Human Experience, Beliefs and Values, Living Religious Traditions and the Search for Personal Meaning.)

Progression of skills will be ensured by following the skills listed in the Eight Level Scale (Lancashire Agreed Syllabus).

RE will be taught as a stand alone subject for a blocked amount of time. Planning and delivery are creative and a wide variety of approaches are used.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

It is recognised that parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child from Religious Education then arrangements are made for that child to be withdrawn during the lessons by the class teacher in consultation with the Head teacher.

Assessment

Teachers are required to assess both Attainment Targets twice a year. (At the end of autumn and summer term.) The results of the final assessment task in Year 2 and Year 6 will be sent to Lancashire SACRE. (The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education).

Below are the levels the children will be expected to achieve at the Key Stages.

	Range of levels within which the majority of pupils are expected to work.	Expected attainment for the majority of pupils at the end of the Key Stage.
Key Stage 1	1-3	2
Key Stage 2	2-5	4

Resources

The resources are stored in the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 corridors. They include artefacts, books and posters. They are being updated continually.

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