



Harper Bell SDA Primary School: Approach To RE



Intent

At Harper Bell, Religious Education plays a vital role in developing pupils' personal, social and spiritual understanding. Our curriculum encourages empathy, respect and curiosity about diverse worldviews. Through the Emmanuel Project, pupils explore religious and non-religious perspectives equally, understanding how beliefs and experiences shape how people see and interpret the world.

Implementation

- **Curriculum Design:** We follow the Emmanuel Project, a spiral curriculum that builds knowledge and understanding of a range of worldviews, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism, Humanism and secular perspectives.
- **Approach:** Each unit explores key questions through stories, discussion, drama and reflection, enabling pupils to express and justify opinions. Each unit consists of an EXPLORE, ENGAGE and EXPLAIN phase.
- **Progression:** Themes revisit and deepen understanding year on year, supporting meaningful connections between beliefs, values and actions.
- **Inclusion:** Lessons are discussion-rich and practical. Teachers make reasonable adjustments to ensure all pupils can participate fully, valuing verbal expression as much as written work.

Impact

- Pupils articulate their understanding of different faiths and worldviews with empathy and respect.
- They recognise similarities and differences between beliefs, using prior knowledge to build deeper insight.
- RE promotes tolerance, curiosity and confidence in discussing personal and cultural perspectives.

Pupil Voice:

"RE helps us understand other people's beliefs and why they are important to them." Y6

Assessment

- Teachers use ongoing AfL through discussion and reflection.
- After each unit, pupils' understanding is evaluated by answering the 'Big Question'
- Gaps in knowledge are addressed through Smart Starts and responsive teaching.
- Judgements focus on understanding and participation, not only written outcomes.

Subject Knowledge, Skills and Vocabulary

Our RE curriculum develops understanding, empathy and reflection. Pupils learn to:

- **Know and describe** – key facts about major religions, beliefs, festivals and places of worship.
 - **Compare and connect** – identify similarities and differences between worldviews.
- **Reflect and respond** – express personal views respectfully, showing empathy and open-mindedness.
 - **Question and enquire** – explore how beliefs influence decisions, identity and values.
 - **Use key vocabulary** – accurately describe concepts, practices and traditions.

Progression from EYFS to Year 6 ensures pupils develop curiosity, respect and understanding of the diverse beliefs that shape our world.

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Inclusion

Religious Education at Harper Bell is inclusive by design: every pupil explores beliefs, values and worldviews in ways that foster respect and understanding across differences. Discussion-rich lessons, visual supports and scaffolded reflection tasks accommodate a wide range of learners. Teachers ensure all children feel safe and valued when sharing ideas, supporting an inclusive climate of mutual respect.