

Religious Education - Intent, Implementation and Impact Statement

Intent

At St Nicholas C of E Primary School, the Religious Education curriculum is underpinned by our school vision: Dream Big Shine Bright. Our vision is rooted in the Bible, "let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" Matthew 5:16. We develop learners that feel inspired and motivated to 'shine bright' in God's world making positive contributions to their immediate, local and global community. Our RE curriculum develops pupils' abilities to connect, critically reflect upon, evaluate and apply their learning to their own growing understanding of religion and belief (particularly Christianity), of themselves, the world and human experience.

Our aim is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own. Children have the opportunity to respond creatively and in a range of ways to the key questions posed and big ideas explored.

Our Religious Education develops respectful and reflective learners. We recognise and celebrate the role RE plays in nurturing Christian and British values in our children and staff. Pupils will know about and understand Christianity as a living world faith- exploring core theological concepts and engaging with biblical texts. We encourage children to make positive choices and to be respectful and tolerant of the views of others, particularly within the RE curriculum.

Implementation

RE is enquiry led at St Nicholas. We follow the agreed syllabus for Coventry and Warwickshire using resources from RE Today with the teaching of Christianity largely taught through the 'Understanding Christianity' resource. RE is taught discretely, in a once a week session across Key Stage 1 and 2. In KS1 Religious Education is taught for 32 hours per year and KS2 for 45 hours per year. In addition to the formal teaching of RE, weekly worship reflections take place. These are recorded in RE books in KS2 and a whole class reflection book in KS1.

All year groups learn about Christianity as well as a range of other world faiths with a focus on Hinduism, Islam and Judaism. Non-religious worldviews such as Humanism are also explored.

Children in EYFS encounter religions and worldviews through special people, books, times, places and objects. They listen to and talk about stories. Children are introduced to subject specific words and use all their senses to explore beliefs, practices and forms of expression. They ask questions and reflect on their own feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation of and wonder at the world in which they live.

Impact

Through RE, children are taught to develop skills of questioning, reading and interpretation; understanding how believers interpret, handle and use religious texts and making sense of the meanings of texts. Examining ways in which people respond to religious texts and teachings, and how they put their beliefs into action in diverse ways within the community and in the world.

Teaching 'Understanding Christianity' enables children to develop their own thinking and their understanding of Christianity, as a contribution to their understanding of the world and their own experience within it. Pupils explore the significant theological concepts within Christianity as part of developing their wider religious, theological and cultural literacy.

Our children have an excellent knowledge of Christianity and solid understanding of Hinduism, Islam and Judaism. By the time they leave us, they show tolerance and respect for different worldviews, religions and cultures. They reflect on their learning in RE and consider how that fits within their own beliefs.

Children communicate their RE knowledge through a range of responses. They formulate their own questions and can present balanced opinions.

Through RE, children will feel connected to their local community and develop a sense of responsibility for it.

Assessment for Learning is at the heart of our practice with pupils being given opportunities to reflect on and improve their own work. Teachers use a variety of formative assessment and feedback methods in class rather than relying only on written comments.

We use Insight to contemporaneously track each child's progress on the key concepts identified in our skills progression. In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through Learning Walks, Pupil interviews and Book Monitoring. Here at St Nicholas, you will see the impact of our RE curriculum through the children themselves. They live out our Christian and British values. They are reflective and thoughtful learners. Our children understand that their worldviews may be different to others, and respect this. They engage in discussion about religion with a maturity that we are proud of.