

RE at Yarm Primary

At Yarm Primary, our intent is to provide children with a broad and balanced curriculum, which builds on children's needs and prepares them for the future. We use a project based learning approach to provide an engaging and purposeful context for learning where pupils are encouraged to apply the skills and knowledge in a range of subjects. We place emphasis on mastering key skills to provide a solid foundation for life-long learning.

Within the curriculum guidance:

RE should:

- *Provoke challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.*
- *Develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions.*
- *Encourage pupils to explore their own beliefs in light of what they learn.*
- *Build resilience to anti-democratic or extremist narratives*
- *Teach pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs and challenge prejudice.*
- *Prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and others and explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.*
- *provide a graving diversity of religion and belief, both religious and non religious, as well as cultural and geographical*
- *underpin classroom conduct of behaviour and respect.*

To implement the offer children are supported in developing their skills through a project based approach, identifying an enquiry question with subsequent sessions helping the children to form a response to the question. We look at a wide range of religions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism. Through these religions we look at topics through enquiry questions such as:

- Why is Diwali celebrated?
- What is the Qur'an and why is it important?
- Why do Christians give gifts at Christmas?
- How do people express their faith?
- Is faith always the same?
- What is spirituality?
- From life to death what role does religion play?

Key religious festivals are typically celebrated/commemorated through assembly time and then explored in more depth in a series of lesson sequences; when we can look at differences but also similarities with tolerance being key. The purpose of our approach is to develop children's attitude in terms of wonder, reverence, compassion, curiosity, self-respect and integrity.

To secure the offer we feel our children deserve and better reflect what is captured in curriculum maps, we will work on the following as short term priorities:

- Review the resources.
- Look at the existing plans in maps and explore the development of the intent as sequences as opposed to episodes, becoming more typical.
- Promote the display of RE work and foci in shared areas, to raise status within the curriculum.
- Promote visits and visitors to support the work, once permitted.

