



Deanery C.E. Primary School
Academy Status

Religious Education Policy

September 2016

Policy for Religious Education

Introduction

Rationale

At the Deanery we believe that knowledge and understanding of Religion is the key to a healthy social, spiritual and moral life. As Christians we believe that this is best reflected through the life and teachings of Christ as reflected in the New Testament. This to a certain degree reflects the School's approach to RE within the School Curriculum. We also believe that good knowledge of the religious beliefs and practices of other Religions can serve to promote understanding and empathy with others and produce well - rounded and thoughtful individuals who are in a position to cope sensitively with Birmingham's diverse society.

Aims and purposes

The Religious Education Curriculum at the Deanery Church of England Primary School follows guidance from DfES QCA planning for Religious Education 2000 as well as regular advice from Birmingham Diocese Education team. The school therefore adopts the aims and purposes within those documents: RE provides opportunities for children to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of, and their ability to respond to, Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain.
- Explore issues within and between faiths to help them understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions and understand the influence of these individuals, societies, communities and cultures
- Consider questions of meaning and purpose in life
- Learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed judgements on religious and moral issues
- Develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for life as citizens in a plural society
- Develop enquiry and response skills through the use of distinctive language, listening and empathy
- Reflect on, analyse and evaluate their beliefs and those of others

At the same time, due to the Christian nature of the school, Religious Education strives to follow the guidelines of the School's Ethos and Values Policy which stresses the importance of a 'morally and socially enriched environment' through the teaching of the Christian faith and provide a firm basis of knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and values. The school also links to the aims in the dispositions in the current Birmingham LEA Agreed Syllabus and skill acquisition outlined in Chris Quigley's guidance.

Practice and Procedure

Implementation

All pupils are entitled to access the Religious Education curriculum at the Deanery regardless of gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs or ability. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from this curriculum area. The Religious Education Curriculum is taught in half termly units of work and complies with government recommended time allocation for Key Stages 1 and 2. The QCA curriculum is enhanced by 'School units', which reflect the Christian motivation of the school.

The curriculum allows opportunity to:

- Listen to the opinions of others respectfully
- Consider personal attitudes and beliefs
- Develop questioning skills and evaluate evidence
- Develop an understanding of moral issues

The curriculum should be implemented through a variety of teaching and learning methods such as:

- The use of artefacts, visual and audio stimuli
- Visits to relevant buildings/places of worship
- Visitors into school
- The use of drama, class debates, role play
- Independent research

Assessment

Each pupil's overall development is assessed at the end of each term when and as children meet the skills outlined in the four areas of 'Belief and Teaching, Understanding of how Beliefs are conveyed, Understanding of Lifestyle and Practice and The ability to Reflect'. These areas are developed across the milestone's attainment and incorporate skills from the previous levelled curriculum. There is opportunity for class teachers to comment on exceptional achievement and the progress of those they may be concerned about.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the role of the R.E. leader to

- Monitor planning
- Monitor assessment data
- Manage an annual RE budget
- Provide adequate resources
- Develop targets for the School Development plan
- Prepare reports to governors
- Act as point of reference to colleagues

It is the role of the class teacher to:

- Implement the RE curriculum
- Take account of the range of ability within a class
- Complete termly assessments
- Be aware of and use relevant artefacts
- Complete planning units
- Highlight and bring to the attention of the curriculum leader for RE any areas of concern

Success criteria and monitoring

The curriculum leader for RE develops targets as part of the School Development Plan. These are reviewed and updated on an annual basis. During the year the teacher responsible for Religious Education will monitor:

- The use of planning provided
- Pupil progress

The Religious Education curriculum is also monitored by the leadership team through:

- Book trawls
- Lesson observations

Reviewed and amended by Gemma Gibbins

September 2016

Agreed and accepted by Governing Body

December 2016

Signed _____

Dated _____