

The Intent of our Religious Education Curriculum

Religious education has a unique place as a central subject in the curriculum of Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E. It is neither a core nor a foundation subject; the 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils.

Through our Religious Education curriculum we aim:

to engage pupils in enquiring into and exploring questions arising from the study of religion and belief, so as to promote their personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

to provide learners with knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religious traditions and beliefs represented in Great Britain.

to develop their understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook.

to enable learners to apply the insights of the principal religious traditions to their own search for identity and significance.

to enable learners to become aware of their own beliefs and values and to have a positive attitude to the search for meaning and purpose in life.

to encourage learners to develop a positive attitude towards other people who hold religious beliefs different from their own.

The Implementation of our Religious Education Curriculum

Our scheme of work comes from Blackburn Diocese Board of Education Religious Education syllabus for Church Schools – Questful RE (2022) and is supported with units from the resource Understanding Christianity. As we have mixed classes, most of our curriculum is on a two-year rolling programme.

Religious Education is taught on a weekly basis but is sometimes delivered through a class topic or as a whole school RE day / weeks. Teachers may develop their own key questions linked to the themes in the syllabus, allowing links with other subject areas where appropriate.

Lessons are planned and delivered in a variety of ways ensuring that all children can access and participate in lessons. Interactive, practical activities encourage the children to discuss their ideas and extend their understanding of difficult concepts and challenging questions.

In the curriculum time for RE, Christianity occupies a minimum of 70% of the time, up to a maximum of 80%. Along with Christianity, children will study aspects of the practices and beliefs of Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. Therefore, 20% to 30% of RE Curriculum time is devoted to these world faiths.

Pupils' progress in RE is based on the expected outcomes outlined in the Questful RE Syllabus (2022). We track individual pupil's progress in this way, whilst also bearing in mind that the statements do not cover all aspects of teaching and learning in RE. For example, pupil's personal views and ideas are not subject to formal assessment, and yet are central to good R.E.

R.E. is reported annually to parents and has a prominent position in the end of year report.

The Impact of our Religious Education Curriculum

At Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E, we view Religious Education as an integral part of learning and formation. An indicator of success from the study of RE will be the children achieving a deepening of their personal knowledge, understanding and response to Christ through their service of others.

Religious Education at Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E **develops** pupils'...

knowledge and understanding of, and their ability to respond to, Christianity, other principal world religions, other religious traditions and world views.

understanding and respect for different religions, beliefs, values and traditions (including ethical life stances), through exploring issues within and between faiths.

understanding of the influence of faith and belief on individuals, societies, communities and cultures.

skills of enquiry and response through the use of religious vocabulary, questioning and empathy.

skills of reflection, expression, application, analysis and evaluation of beliefs, values and practices, and the communication of personal responses to these.

Religious Education at Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E **encourages** pupils to ...

consider challenging questions of the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

understand the influence of religion on individuals, families, communities and cultures.

learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while exploring questions of meaning and their own beliefs.

learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed responses to religious, moral and social issues.

develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for life as citizens in a plural, global society.

develop respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own.

Religious Education at Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E **enhances** pupils' ...

awareness and understanding of religions and beliefs, teachings, practices and forms of expression.

ability to reflect on, consider, analyse, interpret and evaluate issues of truth, belief, faith and ethics and to communicate their responses.

Religious Education at Ribchester St. Wilfrid's C of E **offers** pupils'...

opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development.