

Hope Hamilton C of E (VA) Primary School



Religious Education Policy

Policy Date:	10 th Nov 25	Version: 1.0		
Policy Review Date:	Nov 28	Headteacher: Fiona Brooks	Signature: <i>F Brooks</i>	Date: 10.11.25
Ratified by Governing Body: 8.12.25				
Insert Name: Stephen Wadsworth		Insert Signature: <i>S Wadsworth</i>	Insert Date: 8.12.25	

Introduction

Religious Education at Hope Hamilton aims to provide all children with the stimulus to be open hearted and broadminded. These attitudes are for life, not just for school, and they should equip our children to live in our multicultural city. Religious Education is part of the basic curriculum but **not currently** part of the National Curriculum because it is taught in accordance with a locally agreed syllabus (Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus (2021-26) and Understanding Christianity). However, it has the same status and importance as any other subject.

Since Hope Hamilton is a Voluntary Aided Primary School, Religious Education holds a special place in our school life and adds to the ethos of the school. R.E. is not an isolated area of the curriculum but must be seen in the context of the whole curriculum. At Hope Hamilton, we explore the religions of Hinduism, Islam and Sikhi in addition to Christianity. World views such as Humanism are also taught in KS2.

The Christian ethos of the school forms the starting point for all teaching and learning and Religious Education forms an important part of this overall ethos. It provides a means for children to develop an understanding of their own and others' beliefs so they come to value themselves and to respect others. We encourage the children to follow Christ's teaching to love and to serve one another so they can take their place in a multicultural, multiracial society.

The aim of our religious education teaching is to provide opportunities for children to:

- develop an understanding of religion and faith and their place in today's society.
- learn *from* religions as well as *about* religions.
- develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions.
- explore issues between faiths to help them understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions and understand the influence of these on 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 themselves as significant, unique and precious.
- develop enquiry and response skills through the use of distinctive language, listening and empathy.
- reflect on, analyse and evaluate their beliefs, values and practices and communicate their responses.
- to experience awe and wonder and explore spirituality

RE does not seek to impose religious beliefs on children nor to compromise the integrity of their own beliefs by promoting one religion over another. It is also not the same as collective worship which has its own place in school life.

Inclusion

Please refer to the Equality Policy and SEND Policy.

Curriculum Organisation

Key points of the syllabus: Christianity is to be studied at each key stage. Children will learn about some of the major faiths represented in the communities of Leicester. Non-religious life stances are taught where appropriate at each Key Stage. Festival teams of staff plan activities around world religious festivals to encourage cross curricular links and to further embed religious understanding, tolerance and acceptance across the school.

The curriculum is also underpinned by Understanding Christianity, as well as big questions about 'life' and the 'world', where many religions are compared and contrasted.

Curriculum time for RE

This time will either be used weekly or on an accumulated basis dependent on age group, particular topic or other deciding factors. Religious Education may be taught as a discrete subject or as part of other curriculum areas such as PSHE, or Communication. In the Foundation Stage, RE is integrated into areas from the EYFS framework (PSE and Understanding the World)

KS1: 36 hours and KS2: 45 hours per year.

Resources

Resources for RE are of good quality and used appropriately. There is a large selection of books, posters, jigsaws and authentic artefacts located in the Violet and Indigo Group room. An inventory of resources can also be found here.

The scheme of work provides for visits to the places of worship of the primary religions represented in the local area. Our 2 Year Cycle for RE includes planned visits to places of worship.

Assessment

Teachers assess progress in learning and staff utilise a variety of end of unit assessment tasks. Teachers also use the expected outcomes to assess learning. This is currently under review.

Monitoring and Evaluation

RE teaching and assessment is monitored by the RE lead throughout each academic year. Work samples and pupil interviews are collected and used to monitor. Moderation across phase occurs yearly.

Success Criteria

Children develop an understanding of Christianity and other major religions and a respect for the beliefs of others. Whether they have their own faith or not, children have an understanding of the place of faith in modern society and in their own lives and are able to discuss religious issues with sensitivity and integrity.

Role of Subject Leader

The RE Lead maintains an overview of the subject along with the Governing Body Committee Group. The subject leader evaluates the quality of the RE curriculum and provides guidance to other staff to ensure standards are good.

Scheme of Work

This is available on the school server.

The content of the Religious Education programme draws on the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus 2021-26 and the related NATRE scheme and Understanding Christianity. The Leicestershire agreed Syllabus also is used in KS2 to further support the teaching of Sikhi and Hinduism, which has an important place within our school and city, and meets the needs of our diverse children.

Withdrawal from RE

It is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child then arrangements should be made in consultation with the Head teacher.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner in the case of a full curriculum review or new legislation.