

FLITWICK LOWER SCHOOL

Policy

Religious Education



Introduction

It is intended that all children will have equal opportunity to access the Religious Education curriculum at Flitwick Lower School. In accordance with the law, parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons and/or Collective Worship.

Philosophy

We believe that Religious Education is vital in promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils and that it prepares them for the opportunities, experiences and responsibilities of adult life. We should, wherever possible, take the opportunity to incorporate these beliefs in the school curriculum on a cross-curricular basis.

The school shares the overall aim stated in the Bedfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2012).

"The aim of Religious Education in Bedfordshire schools is to contribute educationally to the development of pupils as individuals and members of society by fostering a reflective approach to life in the context of a growing understanding of the experiences, beliefs and religious practices of humanity."

Aims

To provide opportunities for the children to experience and develop the following:-

- a) Values and attitudes acceptable to society
- b) Life skills, concepts and knowledge which promote a positive attitude to learning
- c) The confidence to enable discussion and co-operation with others in order to enhance pupils' work and thinking skills
- d) An awareness of the ever changing natural world and its beauty together with the need for its conservation
- e) Imaginative thought and expressive language through stories, poems, art, music, writing etc
- f) Positive relationships with others at school, at home and in the wider community
- g) A positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions
- h) Knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain
- i) Understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures
- j) Overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- k) The use of ICT resources and equipment to support their learning

Time Allocation

The statutory minimum time allocation for the teaching of Religious Education is in accordance with national recommendations:

Key Stage One – 36 hours per year

Key Stage Two – 45 hours per year

*These figures do not include time for collective worship

Teaching and Learning

It is intended that pupils will experience two areas of learning throughout their Religious Education.

- Learning about religion (AT1)
- Learning from religion (AT2)

These two areas of learning are inter-related; they enable children to reflect and draw upon their own experiences in order to explore the concepts that are central to different religions.

We aim to follow the Bedfordshire agreed syllabus units of work.



Key Stage 1

What does it mean to belong?
 Why should we care for the earth?
 How do we show care for others?
 How and why do we celebrate special times?
 Who is a Christian and what do they believe?
 What makes some places special?
 Who is an inspiring person?
 What can we learn from sacred books and stories?
 Who is a Muslim and what do they believe?

Key Stage 2

What does it mean to be a Jew?
 How and why does a Christian follow Jesus?
 What do religions teach about the natural world and why should we care about it?
 How and why do believers show their commitments during the journey of life?
 How should we live and who can inspire us?
 Where, how and why do people worship?
 What are the deeper meanings of the festivals?

Teachers throughout the Key Stages will follow the Learning Objectives detailed in these Recommended Study Units, incorporating them into their planning. The Agreed syllabus provides suggestions for additional core material for teachers to select and note on medium term planning. RE will be taught either as part of a topic or as a free standing subject.

The agreed syllabus sets out experiences and opportunities and appropriate topics for children in the Foundation stage. Topics include: Celebrations, Belonging, Myself, Story, Leaders and Teachers, Believing and Symbols. The suggestions made for the Foundation Stage RE link the Foundation stage profile to themes in the National Framework.

School Collective Worship and Assemblies

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education reform Act which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of collective worship as a whole school, year group, key stage or class.

School assemblies are planned by the Head teacher, and individual teachers and classes make regular contribution to the assembly programme. The themes for collective worship reflect our school Values and Christian beliefs.

Time is given to community events and special occasions in the religious calendar as well as celebrating children's achievements. Speakers and visitors are invited wherever appropriate. Collective worship includes a time of prayer and/or reflection.

Monitoring

The SMSC curriculum group meet regularly to monitor planning and examples of work throughout the school to ensure coverage of the Bedfordshire Agreed syllabus and continuity and progression.

This policy also links into the following policies:

- Teaching and Learning
- Assessment and Monitoring
- Anti-bullying
- e-safety
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Policy Agreed by staff:	May 22 nd 2014
Policy Agreed by Governors:	
Last Review Date:	
Next Review date:	May 2015
Signed:	

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