



R.E policy- led by Hannah Musgrove- reviewed September 2019

Introduction

At Howley Grange Primary School we believe that R.E is an essential part of a broad and balanced education. As RE is not nationally determined, the local Education Authority must provide an agreed syllabus. At Howley Grange Primary School we follow The Discovery RE Scheme. This scheme has been cross referenced to ensure we are also meeting the requirements of the Dudley Agreed Syllabus.

Families who send their children to this school are in the main 'nominally' Christian, although we do have children from practising Christian families. In addition, there are children who are from religions other than Christianity, and some from non- religious backgrounds. RE is concerned with 'learning about religions' and 'learning from religions' and it is not the practise of the school to preach to or convert the children. The faith background of both the staff, the children and their families is respected at all times.

Aims and Objectives

We believe, at this school, that RE both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos and the value which we place on the development of the whole child is reflected within the RE curriculum, spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually. At Howley Grange Primary School we aim to help pupils gain a knowledge and understanding of the principle religions of the World, their customs, practises, beliefs and values. Within Key Stage One religious education begins with the pupils and their own experiences. It sets the foundations for religious understanding by exploring the pupils own experiences of special people, places and things. Children are given opportunities to talk about their experiences. During key stage 2 pupils begin to broaden their religious understanding by looking at more explicit examples of religious belief and practise. They develop their understanding of religious ideas such as God, prayer, worship, rules and community. Discussion continues to play an important part within KS2 as it does in KS1.

We aim to deliver this through:

- Providing an enjoyable RE curriculum using the Discovery RE Scheme to guide teachers
- Acquiring and developing knowledge and an understanding of the principle World faiths practised in Great Britain, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism.
- Developing opportunities for children to reflect upon, question and respond to what they are learning.
- Working in partnership with families and our community.
- Nurturing and developing every child to become purposeful and caring members of the community in order to build good relationships.

- Using a variety of stimuli to awaken the interest of our pupils such as story, music, artefacts, pictures, videos, visits and faith community representatives.

Curriculum Planning

The long term overview for RE shows the coverage in terms of World religions. Medium term plans are based on the Discovery RE scheme of work. In line with the Dudley Agreed Syllabus we plan to spend 30 hours per year at Key Stage One and 39 hours per year at Key Stage 2 on the teaching of RE.

Cross curricular links

RE teaching and learning will hopefully be the means to many wider cross curricular themes. There are often special opportunities to explore multicultural and equal opportunities issues and a consideration for the environment. Moral questions will be encouraged and pupils will be supported to develop a sense of citizenship. Where possible, links will be made with people and communities, within the locality. Pupils in KS1 have the opportunity to visit our local churches to perform in our Christmas carol concert. Pupils in KS2 have the opportunity to visit the Gurdwara and churches as part of our Christian and Sikhism areas of study. Children's skills in speaking and listening and English will be enhanced and problem solving, decision making and interpersonal skills will be developed wherever possible.

Teaching and Learning

These aspects of our RE curriculum are delivered through:

- Time tabled RE lessons
- Whole school approach to our provision
- Cross curricular opportunities
- Events and activities
- Trips to local places of worship
- Use of visitors and local community
- Circle time and use of talk partners to discuss any issues as they arise

It is the responsibility of the class teacher, working alongside the subject leader to ensure RE is taught on a regular, consistent basis. Children have the opportunity to reflect on their RE learning and develop their knowledge within their individual learning journeys.

Assessment

Teachers assess their children's understanding using the Discovery RE assessment procedures. This continues to focus on a levelled scale as set out in the Dudley Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. Assessment in RE is seen in its broadest sense and is not limited to testing. Through activities such as discussion with pupils, group activities, marking and guidance, observing, displaying work, asking and answering questions, teachers are continually finding out about their pupils achievements. This information is recorded in the child's termly report and then shared with parents. Assessment is the responsibility of each class teacher who will monitor and record children's progress towards achieving the relevant end of key stage statements.

Role of the R.E subject leader

- To ensure the policy is being implemented.
- To review this policy on an annual basis.
- To support staff, to implement R.E, using Discovery RE and cross referencing to the locally agreed syllabus
- To liaise with the R.E link Governor (when available).
- To keep up to date, with current developments in their subject area.
- To monitor planning, delivery and children's books.
- To audit and update resources.
- To provide a strategic lead for the development of RE across the school

Resources

A wide range of resources are kept in the store cupboard located outside our year 4 classrooms.

Several religious buildings are visited in the local area and Birmingham.

Visitors from other faiths and charities enhance our teaching and support us at various times during the school year.

Right of Withdrawal

The 1944 Education Act, reaffirmed in the 1988 Act, gives parents the right to withdraw their child from all or part of RE, if they wish. Any parent, who wishes this, may consult the Head teacher. We always respect the wishes of parents and ensure children are supervised, if this were the case.

Reviewed September 2019

H. Musgrove

Next review September 2021



Achieve Believe Care