

Lancastrian Infant School

Religious Education & Collective Worship



Lancastrian Infant School
Religious Education and Collective Worship Policy

Purpose of this policy

There are four main purposes to this policy:

1. To establish an entitlement for all pupils;
2. To establish expectations for teachers of this subject;
3. To promote continuity and coherence across the school;
4. To state the school's approaches to this subject in order to promote understanding of the curriculum.

THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires that –

- RE is taught to all pupils in full time education. Parents do retain the right to withdraw their child from all or part of RE. Teachers' rights are safeguarded should they wish to withdraw from the teaching of RE.
- RE is taught in accordance with the Local Agreed Syllabus. This is a legal requirement.
- RE should "reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain". (Education Reform Act 1988 Section 8(3).)
- RE "must not be designed to convert pupils or urge a particular religion or religious belief on pupils". (Section 26(2).

Aims

Of Religious Education in the curriculum:

- To stimulate the children's interest in religions and cultures
- To provide a variety of first hand experiences of religions and cultures
- To develop each child's awareness of the values of values of truth, justice, respect for all and care of the environment.
- To give opportunities for children to value themselves and others
- To encourage children to ask and answer questions.
- To promote discussion about the children's learning employing suitable subject vocabulary.
- To an opportunity to learn about the role of family and the community in religious belief and activity,
- To respect, appreciate and celebrate the diversity in society through understanding similarities and differences,
- To learn about the sustainable development of the earth
- To visit and experience worship in a Christian church (through the school's link with St Paul's Church) and in other faiths where possible

In Collective Worship (Assembly)

- To provide an opportunity for pupils to meet together as a whole school
- To provide an opportunity to reflect on life and prayer
- To introduce children to religious worship in a meaningful and honest way

- To enable those pupils who want to worship God to do so
- To encourage and develop a sense of community in the school reinforcing the aims and ethos and celebrating the ideals and values of the school.

Organisation of the curriculum at Lancastrian Infant School

Religious Education in the Early Years Foundation Stage is identified in the Personal, Social and Emotional Development and the Knowledge and Understanding of the World areas of learning as culture.

The West Sussex Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2015 for Key Stage 1 is set out as follows:

Breadth of study

Children should be taught the Knowledge, skills and understanding through the following areas of study-

- Children will learn about Christianity and at least one other principal religion
- A religion with a significant local presence
- A secular world view

Children will have a variety of experiences and opportunities including-

- Visiting places of worship and focusing on symbols and feelings
- Listening and responding to visitors from local faith communities
- Using their senses and having times of quiet reflection
- Using art and design, music, dance and drama to develop creative talents and imagination
- Sharing their own beliefs, ideas and values and talking about feelings and experiences
- Beginning to use ICT to explore religions and beliefs as practised in the local and wider community

In Key Stage 1 our RE learning is linked to the topics where possible. However, in some cases it is necessary to teach RE separately or through Working with Others.

The Learning environment

Evidence of the following will be found in the learning environment is that children will gain the confidence to ask their own questions and use research and inquiry to find the answers.

- An active learning environment
- Children working from first-hand experience
- Children encouraged to ask questions
- Children actively involved in exploration and investigation and inquiry.
- Children to work co-operatively.
- Children discussing with each other and adults.
- Children having access to relevant vocabulary.
- Children choosing their own research and recording tools.
- Evaluating their findings and validity of sources.
- Children showing enjoyment in the learning they are undertaking.

Learning Resources

Every teacher has access to the religious and cultural resources and artefacts. All staff are responsible for the maintenance for this area. Note that other resources can be obtained from other organisations. A list of these can be found in the resource area.

Health and Safety

In planning the learning, teachers will anticipate any likely safety issues. They will also explain the reasons for safety measures and discuss any implications with the children. Children should be encouraged to consider safety issues for themselves. For specific guidance about safety, teachers will refer to the ASE publication "Be Safe" (4th Edition) which is kept within the resources area.

Assessment in Religious Education

There will be no formal summative assessment in RE. RE will be assessed formatively through the children's discussion and recording. Their prior knowledge will be ascertained and built on in order to widen their experiences and develop their thinking. Written work will be marked according to the marking policy.

Differentiation in Religious Education

By differentiation within the religious education curriculum we mean the provision of work at different levels which meet a wide range of children's needs and which will keep pace with their developing abilities. There are different methods of differentiation which will be used during history teaching at Lancastrian Infant School. Different approaches will be needed for different classes, ages and learning opportunities.

The Role of the Headteacher

- To monitor the implementation of the religious education and collective worship policy.
- To monitor the progress, standards and quality of learning across the school.
- To support staff in new ideas, resources and materials relevant to the religious education curriculum.
- To work with the PSHCE coordinator to develop themes for collective worship.
- To monitor the standards of collective worship.
- To make recommendations for further improvement.

Our School link with St Paul's Church and Chichester Cathedral

As part of our important links with the local community and curriculum focus on the city of Chichester, we have a close link with our local church- St Paul's as well as Chichester Cathedral. Both these places offer the children the opportunity to experience a religious service and to learn about a place of worship.