

Religious Education Curriculum Rationale at Finstall First School

Religious Education should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to explore difficult philosophical questions, develop an understanding of different religious beliefs and also encourage them to reflect on their own ideas and way of living. RE helps children to combat prejudice, appreciate diversity and promotes the integral values of tolerance and respect. In this way, the RE curriculum contributes towards establishing British values and aids children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. RE has an important role in preparing pupils for adult life, employment and lifelong learning.

Curriculum Intent

- 1) Our RE curriculum at Finstall First School enables pupils to develop a rich knowledge and deep understanding of the Christian faith. They will also learn about Islam, Judaism and Hinduism. The topics we choose are relevant and engaging, taking into account the unique and varied needs of our pupils; enabling all children to attain and achieve well in RE and to develop skills which will enable them to achieve in other subject areas.
- 2) Through high quality RE teaching, children will develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, interpretation, evaluation and reflection. Pupils are encouraged to participate in philosophical discussions and explore their own ideas and beliefs in a classroom environment where they feel heard, respected and understood.
- 3) Through the use of a range of varied resources the RE curriculum enables children to develop their reading skills. We believe that reading is a fundamental skill and is at the heart of learning across the curriculum.

Curriculum Implementation

- 1) We adopt a thematic, topic-based approach to teaching and learning. This enables the children to make links between RE and other areas of the curriculum and develop their understanding in a range of ways. Certain skills are still taught discreetly but RE lends itself to cross-curricular learning and the skills learnt in this subject are highly transferrable.
- 2) From unit to unit, and as the children progress through the school, their previous learning is regularly recapped and links between skills and topics are made explicit for the children in order to help them develop a deep understanding of the RE curriculum.
- 3) Every year group has access to a range of enrichment activities as part of the RE curriculum in order to make their learning experience engaging and memorable. These include visitors coming to the school and trips to places of

worship that underpin or extend the teaching and learning covered in certain topics.

Curriculum Impact

- 1) All staff have high expectations and strive to ensure high quality outcomes for all children.
- 2) Through the use of regular and rigorous assessment, moderation between staff and subject monitoring we aim to ensure that standards in the teaching and learning of RE remain high.
- 3) As a consequence of this our pupils become confident, independent learners (not just in RE but in other areas of the curriculum) and are well prepared for the next stage in their education.

M. Morgan

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