



Preston Candover CE Primary School
Love, Hope and Justice

Religious Education Policy

Our policies reflect our Christian ethos and are in accordance with all statutory safeguarding requirements.

April 2018

Review Date: February 2021

Legal Requirement

It is a statutory requirement that schools teach religious education as prescribed by the locally agreed syllabus. At Preston Candover Church of England Primary School, RE will be taught in line with the county agreed syllabus “Living Difference III” and the school’s trust deed.

Religious Education at Preston Candover Church of England Primary School will provide children the opportunity to explore Christianity in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and acquire knowledge of the beliefs and practices of other Christian denominations and faiths

Aims

- To enable pupils to understand the nature of Christian beliefs and practices and the beliefs and practices of other world faiths
- To teach tolerance and challenge prejudice towards people of different faiths through providing opportunities to develop an understanding of the value of living in a multicultural, multi-faith and multilingual society
- To help pupils reflect upon their own needs, experiences and to confront what are sometimes referred to as ‘big questions’
- To encourage pupils to develop open minds to new and different concepts and to form their own opinions based on evidence and argument
- To maintain close links with local churches and links with other religious communities
- To learn from religions in addition to gaining knowledge and understanding about religions

Rationale

Religious Education can provide a rich and wide range of experiences inside and outside the classroom, which give children opportunities to develop concepts and skills that will help them to make sense of their own experiences and beliefs, and to understand the beliefs and practices of members of faith communities through open, fair minded enquiry.

At Preston Candover Church of England Primary School, our RE Curriculum develops successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve; confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

It is embedded with the Values of our school and within the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Indoctrination and conversion are not part of the educational process and therefore have no place in religious education. Religious education is an educational subject in its own right, taught within an educational framework.

Practice

The Contribution of RE to the wider curriculum:

We recognise the important contribution that the teaching of RE makes to the development of children's spiritual, moral, cultural and social education. We see it as integral in the delivery of citizenship.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Through their Spiritual development, the children gain personal insights from their experience of learning, enabling them to reflect on the significance of their learning, and to connect it profoundly, creatively and healthily to themselves, other people, society and the environment.

Through their Moral development the children value diversity and engage in issues of truth, justice and trust, exploring the influence on moral choices of family, friends and the media, and how society is influenced by beliefs, teachings, sacred texts and guidance from religious leaders.

Through their Social development the children consider how religious beliefs lead to particular actions and concerns; investigating social issues from religious perspectives and recognising diversity of viewpoint within and between religions.

Through their Cultural development the children promote understanding from a religious perspective through encounters with people, literature, the creative and expressive arts, and resources from differing cultures, considering the relationship between religion and cultures and how religious beliefs contribute to cultural identity and practices, promoting racial harmony and respect for all, combating prejudice and discrimination.

Planning

A long term overview of the RE curriculum provides a two-year rolling cycle, to ensure continuity and progression. Medium term plans are available for each unit of work. We use the 'Understanding Christianity' resource to support our teaching of Christianity across the school. It is the responsibility of each class teacher to ensure that the agreed RE curriculum is delivered in their classroom. It is the responsibility of the RE coordinator to ensure that the RE curriculum is effectively planned, resourced and assessed.

Scheme of Work

The Scheme of Work for RE follows the "Living Difference III" strategy of delivery through the study of concepts. In early years, a religious education theme is planned as an integral part of the school life and curriculum. At this stage it is not necessary to teach about specific faiths, but foster an awareness of, and an interest in, various religions. At Key Stages 1 and 2 pupils follow the LA schemes of work and with a focus on Christianity and Judaism in Key Stage 1, Christianity and

Hinduism in lower Key Stage 2 and the teaching of Christianity, Judaism and Islam in upper Key Stage 2 is supported by the use of the 'Understanding Christianity' resources which again is an enquiry, concept based approach.

Assessment, recording and reporting arrangements

We assess children's work in RE by making informal judgments as we observe them during lessons. Teachers will comment on progress in RE in each child's annual report. We recognise that sometimes learning may take place as part of a group and may be based on discussion or practical tasks. Work is marked once completed in line with the School's marking policy. The Hampshire Guidelines "Making Judgements in RE about Progress" are available to staff to support in making more formal judgements after units of work are completed.

Reference to other policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's policies on: equal opportunities, special educational needs, SMSC and behaviour management. The Church of England's Statement of Entitlement, 'Religious Education in Church of England Schools' also gives further information on school's statutory duty. This can be found on the School's website in the curriculum area.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education as identified in the Education Reform Act.

Preston Candover is a school where Christian Values underpin the whole curriculum. In order to preserve the distinctiveness of this church school community, we encourage everyone to be involved in Religious Education and Collective Worship. It is the hope of the staff and governors that, in choosing to send their child to a church school, parents will be happy to allow their child to participate. School will engage with parents if withdrawal is requested to ensure legal requirements for withdrawn children to be supervised are met.

Monitoring

Standards in the quality of the delivered RE curriculum will be monitored by the RE Leader through monitoring of assessment, learning observations, pupil interviews and work sampling.

The Head Teacher will monitor RE in the school through sampling and reports from the RE Leader.