

Policy for RE

Introduction

- This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning RE at Skelton Junior School.
- It was developed during the summer of 2001 through a process of consultation with the Humanities working party.

What is RE?

- By educating children about religion, we are broadening their knowledge of the world in which we live. In a world of many beliefs and cultures, understanding can be limited. It is through Religious Education that we can promote understanding and a sensitive awareness of the beliefs and practices of others.
- Religious Education develops the ability to empathise with others and to respect and to show tolerance.
- Religious Education is the moral and spiritual development of an individual. It provides the opportunity to develop self awareness and to engage in one's own search for meaning.

Aims

Our aims in teaching RE are that it will provide opportunities for our children to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain;
- explore issues within and between faiths to help them understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions, and understand the influence of these on individuals, societies and communities;
- consider questions of meaning and purpose in life;
- learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed judgements on religious and moral issues;
- develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for life as citizens in a plural society;
- reflect on, analyse and evaluate their beliefs, values and practices and communicate their responses.

National curriculum

- RE is a foundation subject in the national Curriculum. The fundamental knowledge and concepts of the subject are set out in the national curriculum where they are categorised into programmes of study. The programmes of study for Christianity are; The Church, The Christian Way of Life, The Bible, God and Jesus. Each year group studies different aspects of Hinduism and Islam.

Strategies for the teaching of RE

- The mode of working is a mixture of class teaching, individual work and cooperative group work.
- Relevant discussion is encouraged.
- There is no specialist teaching in RE, it is taught by class teachers.
- Classroom assistants are used to help when available.
- Schemes of work are broadly based on the QCA scheme.
- Excellence in RE is celebrated in display.

Pupils with special needs

- Pupils with difficulties in learning are given differentiated work when appropriate.
- Pupil's with a particular flair and ability for RE are given the opportunity to extend their knowledge and skills.

Strategies for ensuring Progress and Continuity

- The foundation for curricular planning is developed through a process of collaboration between staff, and approved by governors.
- Schemes of work are developed by the working party using QCA guidelines and adapted for the needs of the school.
- Work plans are drawn up by year group teams for each half term and monitored by the humanities team.

The role of the working party for Humanities is to

- Take the lead in policy development and the production of schemes of work designed to ensure progression and continuity in RE throughout the school.
- Monitor progress by developing a portfolio of work.
- Support colleagues in their development of work plans and implementation of the scheme of the work and in assessment and record keeping activities.
- Take responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central resources for RE

Strategies for recording and reporting

- Topics studied within each year group are recorded on assessment sheets which will indicate each child's understanding of the work covered.
- Children's performance is reported to parents termly at consultation evenings and annually through a written report.

Information Technology

- Information technology is an important resource to support RE

Health and Safety issues

- Risk assessments must be undertaken by staff prior to any visits outside the classroom. Teachers will be able to refer for guidance to the school Health and Safety policy, national guidelines and information given by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.