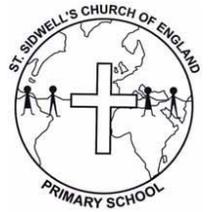


ST. SIDWELL'S C. E. (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Rationale

As a church school we have a particular responsibility to provide a learning environment which reflects Christian values. Within the curriculum we aim to nurture and foster children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, improving their understanding and awareness of the Christian way of life.

Aims

We aim for children to:

- * Ask questions, look for answers and explore the mysteries of life.
- * Develop their spirituality through creativity and reflection.
- * Explore fundamental questions of life in a religious context.
- * Acquire knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith, values and practices through studying the Bible and the life of the church.
- * Begin to learn, understand and appreciate the central beliefs and practices of other major faiths, drawing on our multi faith school population.
- * Develop empathy with, and respect for, people with different religious beliefs.
- * Develop a responsive sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others.
- * Understand the significance and importance of worship.
- * Regularly visit and take part in worship at St Matthew's church.
- * Develop a sense of awe and wonder at God's beautiful world and a caring attitude towards it.

Guidelines

To achieve these aims, teachers will:

- * Follow and use the Devon Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2014), using the school scheme and accompanying resources, adapting where necessary. (The school scheme is based on Devon exemplar planning sequences, Diocesan exemplar planning sequences and our own plans)
- * Ensure that in KS1 an equivalent of 1 hour a week of the curriculum is devoted to R.E. and in KS2 this is increased to 1.25 hours a week. In the Foundation Stage, the teachers will plan for ½ an hour a week of Knowledge and Understanding of the World to be devoted to R.E.
- * Ensure that 2/3 of RE taught is Christian.
- * Ensure that the children are provided with opportunities to 'learn about' and 'learn from' religions and other world views (AT1 & AT2).
- * Ask children questions that will encourage them to explore their own thoughts.
- * Ensure that their own knowledge is adequate to answer children's questions.
- * Offer children the opportunity to question, reflect and express their feelings in a safe environment.
- * Provide and plan opportunities for spirituality (awe and wonder) in both RE and across the curriculum.
- * Present R.E. in a variety of cross-curricular ways throughout the year, e.g. through dance, role-play, music, art.
- * Invite members of our school community from different faiths to support teaching of all main religions.
- * Assess children's knowledge and understanding of R.E. against taught objectives, over the year as agreed.
- * Assess the level of children's knowledge and understanding of R.E. once a year in the Summer term.
- * Give examples of work to subject coordinator for monitoring, e.g. book scrutiny
- * Respect the right of parents / carers to withdraw their child from R.E.

Reviewed and approved by staff - Jan 16

Reviewed and approved by C & C committee – Jan 16

To be reviewed Jan 19

