



Religious Education Policy

Aims

Religious Education is an important element in the broad and balanced curriculum we aim to provide at Oakmeadow Primary School. Through our RE curriculum we provide opportunities to develop children's knowledge and understanding of religious experiences, insights, beliefs and practices. We facilitate the opportunity to reflect on the challenging questions that it provokes.

We focus on developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other religions and consider how the beliefs of others impact on their lives and the lives of others.

We strive to;

- encourage children to ask and reflect on challenging questions
- provide opportunities for personal reflection where children can explore their own beliefs (not necessarily religious) and
- encourage children to appreciate and respect the different cultures in today's society

Legal Requirements:

The RE curriculum forms an important part of our school's spiritual, moral and social teaching. Our school RE curriculum is based on the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus and it meets all the requirements set out in that document. This Agreed Syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. It is non-denominational and is not designed to convert pupils to a particular religion.

Planning:

At Oakmeadow we plan our RE based on the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus delivered through the Discovery RE programme in Key Stage 1 and 2. The long and medium term plans ensure that there is progression throughout the school and that children are building upon knowledge learnt in previous years. The topics are designed so that pupils develop knowledge and understanding of a range of religions in Great Britain and Christianity is taught as the core religion in school. In our Foundation Stage RE is a valuable part of the educational experience of the children. It links closely with developing the children's understanding of the world, as well as the whole school values.



Our RE curriculum allows children to see the similarities within the major religions and make connections. We recognise that within classes, there is a wide variety of abilities and so we provide suitable learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of all children. This is done through providing support, differentiating activities and using a range of teaching and learning styles within lessons. Where possible, teaching will be supplemented through sharing artefacts and resources within school, as well as with trips to places of worship or visits from people from religious communities.

The elements of RE involve two attainment targets which are interconnected and reliant on each other:

- Children should be able to describe and explain a variety of religious and non-religious world views preparing them for adult life as citizens in a diverse society.
- Children will develop their ability to articulate their own world view whilst appreciating that of others. From this process they should be able to come to a reasoned and reflective personal viewpoint.

Assessment:

Assessment in RE is in line with the school's Assessment Policy. The focus of the assessment is in recognising the children's achievements in RE in the broadest sense. It is about giving feedback and using information to support planning the next steps in the children's learning.

Collective Worship:

We value our collective worship and our aims are;

- to consider spiritual and moral issues which are of a wholly or mainly of a Christian character,
- to celebrate or reflect on things that are of worth,
- to facilitate the development of a sense of community, of belonging and of sharing,
- to encourage pupils to learn how to be part of large and small gatherings,
- to celebrate achievements of others within the school community and
- to develop understanding of, and reflect upon the value of, our environment and its importance in our lives.



Parents have a right to withdraw their pupils from all or parts of the acts of worship. However, the class teachers and/or Head teacher should discuss the matter sensitively with any parent or carer who wishes to exercise their right to withdraw their child.