Eastcroft Park Primary School



RE Policy

Aims

Religious Education is an important element in the broad and balanced curriculum we aim to provide at Eastcroft Park Primary School. Through our RE curriculum we provide opportunities to develop children's knowledge and understanding of world religions and reflect on the challenging questions that it provokes. The aims of religious education are:

- To develop pupil's knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other religions and consider how the beliefs of others impact on their lives and the lives of others.
- To encourage children to ask and reflect on challenging questions.
- To provide opportunities for personal reflection where children can explore their own beliefs (not necessarily religious).
- To 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 Knowsley Authority's (LA) Agreed Syllabus and it meets all the requirements set out in that document. The Education Act 1996 states that an Agreed Syllabus must reflect 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 must be non-denominational and must not be designed to convert pupils to a particular religion.

Planning

At Eastcroft Primary School we plan our RE based on the Wirral LA's agreed syllabus via the Discovery RE scheme. The planning ensures 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 the principal religions in Great Britain and Christianity is taught as a core religion in both key stages. Our RE curriculum allows children to see the similarities within the major religions and make connections. Each year group learns about key stories, themes and festivals within Christianity and one other world religion.

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 and when possible, teaching will be supplemented with trips to places of worship or visits

from people from religious communities. The three elements of RE are indicated as follows: Knowledge and Understanding of Religion, Critical Thinking and Personal Reflection. We use self-assessment and assessment trackers to ensure these elements are covered and that learning is appropriate to the age group.
Foundation Stage Religious Education is provided to all pupils at Eastcroft Park Primary School. In the Foundation Stage, RE is linked to the Early Learning Goals and provides children the opportunity to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects.

Assessment and Recording

The standard of work in RE is expected to reflect the targets of children in the core subjects. Displays of children's work in RE are also encouraged. We assess children's work in religious education by making informal judgements as we observe them during lessons. We mark a piece of work once it has been completed and we comment as necessary. We aim to give each child a 'wish' to extend their learning, understanding and thinking. Teacher use the outcomes of each lesson to inform future planning and note any areas of particular interest shown. On completion of a unit of work, we make a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the expectations of the unit. Children also complete self- assessment tasks to summarise their learning at the end of a unit. These assessments are stored by the RE co-ordinator and class teachers to inform further practice.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources to support teaching of RE based on the Wirral LA's agreed syllabus. We use the Discovery RE scheme which provides teachers with medium term plans, resources and enquiries based around the current learning. Each class has an 'expert' Owl buddy which can be used as a tool by the teacher to ask and answer deep questions based on the pupils' thinking.

Right of Withdrawal

According to the Education Act 1996 and the School Standards and Framework Act 1988 parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of religious education.

Date of Policy November 2019.

Signed: A Bennett (RE subject leader)

Policy Review (1)

Date: November 2020

Signed: A Bennett (RE subject leader)

Policy review (2)

Date: November 2021

Signed: A Bennett (RE subject leader)

Policy review (3)

Date: November 2022

Signed: A Bennett (RE subject leader)