

Religious Education

Curriculum Statement

Religious Education (RE) develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of religious and non-religious views and it provokes challenging questions. It teaches pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs and helps to challenge prejudice. It prompts pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to the wider society. It encourages open mindedness, empathy, generosity and compassion.

Intent

At Cummersdale School lessons are intended to offer a broad and rich RE curriculum to allow for coverage of the areas prescribed; to allow for a variety of ways to explore religions, their community and personal development and wellbeing. The lessons have an intention of providing a high quality, coherent and progressive experience of the subject, with scope for cross-curricular learning. Through each unit, children will know about and understand a range of religions and world views. They will be able to identify, investigate and respond to a variety of issues. SMSC, personal growth and community cohesion are featured throughout each non-statutory strand and are there to ensure opportunities for children to develop positive attitudes and values and to reflect on and relate their learning in RE to their own experiences. The intent is to make sure that children understand the relevance of RE in today's modern world and how it affects our lives.

Implementation

At Cummersdale School we reference the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Cumbria, which provides an overview of learning from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to the end of Key Stage 2. In order to fulfill the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus we use the Twinkl RE Scheme. Our long and medium term plans ensure that there is progression throughout the school and that children build upon knowledge learnt in previous years.

RE is incorporated in the EYFS curriculum. Children begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects. There is a specific focus on RE through the 'Celebrations' topic. They listen to and talk about stories. They are introduced to some religious practices, (Knowledge and Understanding) are given opportunities to ask questions (Critical Thinking) and are given opportunities to reflect on their own experiences and feelings (Personal Reflection).

In KS1, children begin to look at other religions, focusing on celebrations and rituals. In KS2, we offer a wider range of learning opportunities about the world's religions including deeper understanding of the origin of those religions and their key stories and teachings. Throughout both key stages, emphasis on personal growth and community cohesion is evident, allowing for personal development for the children from KS1 to the end of KS2. Challenge and differentiation are demonstrated throughout the scheme and show development of skills. Key words are included to show the progression skills around the specific language involved in the children's learning.

All RE planning and teaching is based on the elements of enquiring, expressing, reflecting and informing as stated in the Agreed Syllabus. We promote teaching in RE that encourages enquiry-based learning which enables pupils to develop skills as they investigate issues surrounding religion and beliefs.

All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community.

Pupils with special educational needs are planned for very carefully in school. This is an important part of the RE curriculum, as we strive to ensure that all of our pupils fully understand what they are being taught. This may involve more explanation and discussion about the questions that RE can evoke. This provision may look very different to our other pupils, through differentiation and modification of the curriculum.

Impact

We believe that the impact of using the Twinkl RE Scheme as the basis of our curriculum will be for children to have a better understanding of the religions that make up the UK landscape and how they can learn from and work alongside each other to create community cohesion. All children will be more informed about their position in the world, and the decisions they can make impacting their future. All children in school will be able to talk confidently about their wellbeing, moral and cultural development for the society in which they live. The RE curriculum will promote inquisitive minds, respect, tolerance and understanding for all those around them including themselves. Lessons enable high quality work to be produced and evidenced in books and on Showbie, showcasing a deep understanding of the main religions of the world, their community and their future. This evidence will be seen through using the correct vocabulary, explanations and respectful opinions, as well as cross-curricular evidence, for example religious and cultural artwork, drama, craft and presentations. Impact will be seen by all teachers and children enjoying the experience of teaching and learning RE and understanding how it can help them in their future.

Curriculum Map

2024/25	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 1 & 2	Belonging Light and Dark	Religion and Rituals Beginning and Endings	Friendship Places of Worship
Year 3 & 4	Judaism Pilgrimages Nativity	Christianity The Bible Good Friday Incarnation	Islam Food and Fasting
Year 5 & 6	Hurt and Healing The True Meaning of Christmas	Justice and Freedom Crucifixion	Jesus the Healer Humanism

2025/26	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 1 & 2	Gifts and Giving Nature and God	Easter and Surprise Christianity	Caring for Others Ceremonies
Year 3 & 4	Judaism Pilgrimages The Nativity	Christianity The Bible Good Friday Incarnation	Islam Food and Fasting
Year 5 & 6	Creation Stories The Christmas Story	Worship Peace	Eternity Commitment