

## CHEADLE PRIMARY SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY



### **Rationale**

The school and its governors are committed to the teaching of Religious Education as an important subject in its own right and because of the contribution it makes to other aspects of the school's curriculum and ethos.

### **Aims**

The aims of our School Policy for Religious Education are to maintain and enhance the ethos and values of the school as a place of work and learning, of living together and developing the children's spiritual, cultural and moral attitudes. The school has an inclusive policy and our aim is to prepare activities which will allow all pupils access to the R. E. curriculum.

### **Objectives**

- To ensure that the Religious Education taught at Cheadle Primary is consistent with the requirements of the Guidelines issued by the Local Authority in their Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.
- To promote the spiritual, moral cultural and mental development of the pupils at the school.
- To prepare such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- That all pupils should be able to feel secure in their study of Religious Education, whatever the religious or non-religious tradition of their home.
- That pupils should be able to enter objectively and imaginatively into the spirit of the Christian and other religious traditions, to understand the nature of their beliefs and practices and their influence on social and cultural life.
- That children develop their ability to interpret and appreciate religious imagery and expression and understand the meaning it has to a believer.
- That children develop a thoughtful and creative attitude to their own experience, and to formulate their own values.

### **Organisation and Delivery of Religious Education**

Religious Education differs from the National Curriculum in that responsibility for its organisation and delivery lies with Local Authorities. As such we follow The Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in accordance with legal requirements and will provide adequate time and resources to do so.

It is required that any school syllabus shall reflect the fact that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian and that Christianity should be the principal focus for study. The syllabus should also take into account the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain and should develop the resources and expertise for the teaching of two other religions, so that by the end of key stage 2, pupils will have explored aspects of two other faiths in addition to Christianity. In our school these are namely Islam and Hinduism, however teaching staff are able to incorporate other faiths into their teaching should they wish.

### **Teaching and Learning**

At Cheadle Primary School we are committed to the teaching of stimulating and challenging religious education that focuses on the progression of skills across the key stages.

The children are to receive a programme of R.E. of one session per week. When delivering the programme teaching staff must be mindful of the three main aims of The Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. The aims of RE within the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus are that pupils should acquire:

- An increasing core of insightful knowledge concerning religions and beliefs, both in Britain and in more global terms
- A developing capacity to engage with ultimate questions and to formulate their own sense of identity and values
- A growing range of the social, spiritual and emotional skills and dispositions appropriate to living well in a religiously plural and open society

The three curriculum aims are supported by six broad dimensions:

1. Beliefs, teachings and sources
2. Practices and ways of life
3. Expressing meaning
4. Identity, diversity and belonging
5. Meaning, purpose and truth
6. Values and commitments

### **Provision**

Our provision includes:

- Whole school R.E LTP to be followed by all staff, incorporating the New Agreed Syllabus for Staffordshire and showing continuity and progression between each year through school.
- New MTP to reflect the New Agreed Syllabus for Staffordshire.
- A broad and challenging programme of study that is well matched to children's needs and abilities.
- The use of cross curricular teaching including stories, drama, discussion, art, D&T, dance and music.
- Visits to places of worship and the invitation to visitors to speak to the children.
- Collective worship aimed at developing pupils' sense of community, spirituality and morality.
- Opportunities as a school to recognise festivals celebrated by a variety of religions.
- A diverse range of high quality religious artefacts.

### **Withdrawal**

If parents exercise their right to withdraw their child from R.E. lessons, alternative learning activities will be provided and the child will either carry these out in the classroom or within another class.

### **Role of Teaching Staff – Planning**

Planning should ideally be undertaken in year groups to ensure agreed learning objectives, learning activities, differentiated tasks and where possible assessment opportunities. To ensure progression and lack of repetition across the school, planning should follow the school's long and medium term plans.

### **Role of Teaching Staff - Assessment and Record Keeping**

Teachers are required to use the Learning Objectives from the Medium Term plans to assess children's learning at the end of each half termly unit and record on the schools O track Assessment system.

As a school we encourage creative teaching and teachers of Religious Education are encouraged to explore links with other subjects such as drama, art, music and D&T.

Evidence/assessment of learning may therefore not always take place in written format and may include:

- Notes made when listening to the children working in groups or engaging in drama/role play
- Photographs of children's artwork
- Examples of artefacts the children have made
- Photographs of performances of song/dance

### **Role of Religious Education Co-ordinator**

The Religious Education Co-ordinator in the first instance is responsible for providing a suitable Scheme of Work, a Syllabus to meet the needs of the pupils within our school [consistent with the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus].

The Co-ordinator will further be responsible for ensuring that the school is suitably resourced and alongside teaching staff, will make priorities for the ordering of new artefacts and equipment.

### **Monitoring**

The Religious Education Co-ordinator will also have responsibility for monitoring standards of teaching and learning as per the school's monitoring cycle.

### **Resources**

Our school supports the teaching of stimulating and challenging Religious Education and as such is committed to providing learners with a range of high quality resources and religious artefacts.

A list of current resources is available on the school's learning platform and hard copies can be obtained from the R.E Coordinator.

Requests for additional resources should be made to the R.E Coordinator.