

Wootton C.E. Primary School

Policy Statement for R.E.

Wootton St Peter's is a Church of England School and Religious Education is an essential part of the preparation for life that our school provides. We seek to provide a thorough grounding in the Christian faith and a wider understanding of other religions that will be of benefit to all our pupils, regardless of their backgrounds. We endeavour to foster children's spiritual awareness and to develop a reflective approach to their own experiences. We hope to enable them to make their own decisions about personal faith and to learn to be respectful towards those who hold different beliefs. As a Church School we would expect all children to participate in this important area of the curriculum but we recognise that parents are entitled to withdraw their children. Any parental concerns should be addressed to the Headteacher.

Our Aims are:

- to teach children about Christianity and other religions in a way that enables them to understand what it means to hold a religious belief;
- to develop an awareness of and an ability to respond to life experiences in a reflective way;
- to promote tolerance, understanding and sensitivity towards those whose beliefs are different to our own;
- to enable children to consider and evaluate their own beliefs, values and attitudes.

Guide-lines:

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Scheme of Work

Christianity and two other religions are being studied. "The agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Oxfordshire 2007" is adopted as the basis of R.E. planning.

The religions to be studied are:

Christianity
Judaism
Islam

Key Stage 2 Scheme of Work

Christianity and three other religions are being studied. "The agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Oxfordshire 2007" is adopted as the basis of R.E. planning.

The religions to be studied are:

Christianity
Judaism
Islam
Hinduism

Religious Education in the classroom is independent of "collective Worship" but maybe enhanced by the latter.

Approaches to Religious Education

Units of work from the scheme are delivered to the children by their class teachers, in weekly lessons. In addition to this links to other areas of the curriculum are made whenever appropriate. Religious Education plays an important part in the spiritual, moral and cultural development of our children. The school encourages positive attitudes, respect for others and an atmosphere where different points of view are valued. We believe that this allows the children to learn both about religion and from religion.

Teaching styles may include:

- visits to places of worship in the locality;
- talks by members of the community; (local vicar, members of other faiths)
- drama and role play;
- use of video and television;
- class or group discussion, reflection, sharing;
- imaginative writing;
- art or technology;
- story or poetry reading;
- looking at or handling artefacts;
- the use of ICT.

Equal Opportunities

All children have the opportunity to experience Religious Education to the full regardless of race, gender, faith and learning needs. Every child matters ranging from children with special educational needs, to the gifted and talented pupil.

Assessment

Teacher assessment is an integral part of our scheme of work and helps to inform our planning. Pupil's work is marked and annotated where appropriate in their books/folders throughout KS1 and KS2.

The R.E. coordinator monitors standards through classroom observations and collection of work. Parents are informed about their child's progress in Religious Education within the annual school report.

Resources

The teaching of Religious Education is supported and enhanced by existing resources including artefacts, books – factual and fiction, visits to religious places, visitors, videos, art, and music. It is recognised that these resources need to be extended and developed. Children are taught to treat religious artefacts with appropriate respect.