

St Michael's Church of England Primary School



Religious Education Policy

St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Tenterden

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At St Michael's Primary School we seek to nurture the whole child and instil a love of learning by inspiring young minds within a happy, caring community based on the Christian values of love; joy; kindness; peace; self-control and faithfulness.

Introduction

Religious Education (RE) is an important subject at St Michaels Church of England Primary School. It is part of the basic curriculum and is taught in accordance with the Kent Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (REAct 2007), as we are required to do by law. Also by law, RE must focus mainly on Christianity, whilst taking account of the other principal religions in Great Britain. We mainly use the Canterbury Diocesan Scheme of Work to deliver this Agreed Syllabus.

Time Allocation

The Kent Agreed Syllabus requires a minimum 5% curriculum time for RE (REAct Syllabus p7), which amounts to one hour a week at Key Stage One and 1.25 hours at Key Stage Two. (This is in addition to time for worship). Curriculum time may not always be delivered in one session.

Aims

RE has a particular contribution to make towards the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of each pupil. It involves Learning About Religion i.e. understanding what religious people believe and do, and how they express themselves (Attainment Target 1); and also Learning From Religion i.e. making sense of who we are, of life, and of right and wrong (Attainment Target 2). We encourage respect for religious commitment and for those holding different beliefs.

Programmes of Study

The Agreed Syllabus must be taught from Reception and is linked to the Foundation Stage curriculum through the Early Learning Goals. Christianity is the main religion taught at this early stage, with other religions drawn on as appropriate. They are taught through 'special' themes eg. Special People, Special Places, Special Objects.

At Key Stage One, RE is predominantly about Christianity, with 2 of the 12 units on Judaism and 1 on Hinduism.

At Lower Key Stage Two, RE is also predominantly about Christianity, with 2 of the 12 units on Judaism and 2 on Hinduism. Please see attached long term plan.

At Upper Key Stage Two, half of the syllabus covers Christianity, with 2 of the 12 units on Judaism, 2 on Islam and 2 on Sikhism. Sikhism is taught in Year 6 as a transition to Secondary school, where it is taught again in Year 7.

All units in this scheme focus on one religion at a time, to avoid confusion and to do justice to the distinctiveness of each religion.

Approaches

Each child may have a book or folder specifically for written/drawn RE work, but RE also includes creative and practical activities and discussion. We benefit from our close ties with the parish church for RE visits and visitors to the lessons.

The Kent Agreed Syllabus emphasises the importance of distinctive RE skills, such as enquiring, questioning, analysing and interpreting, as well as empathising and reflecting. Lessons are planned to develop each skill at a time.

Assessment

RE is planned and assessed using the levels for the two attainment targets in the Syllabus.

AT 1 Learn about religion

AT2 Learn from religion

The attainment targets set out the knowledge, skills and understanding that pupils of different abilities and maturities are expected to have by the end of each key stage. These are used to assess standards and monitor progress. (see section 3 of the Non-Statutory Guidance in the REact! folder)

We report on progress and attainment in RE annually in written reports.

Withdrawal

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from all or part of the RE curriculum. It would be appreciated if this were discussed with the head teacher before coming to a final decision.