

Broom Barns School Stevenage

Religious Education Policy

June 2022

Overview

Religious Education (RE) is taught across the whole school. It is taught both discreetly and where suitable, with a cross curricular approach. Through this, we aim to promote the spiritual, moral, and cultural development of all pupils.

RE is a compulsory subject and forms part of the National Curriculum (NC). Broom Barns follows the Hertfordshire Locally Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education (Revised 2017) with teachers using the 'Religion for Today and Tomorrow' document to aid their planning and teaching.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from RE. Where parents are wishing to exercise this right, the Governing Body would first suggest that the parents meet with the class teacher to discuss their concerns.

Our aims

Our number one aim when teaching RE is to:

- *Encourage our children to tolerate, respect and understand other people's views, beliefs and practices.*

Following this RE aims to:

- Develop our children's sense of value and self-worth
- Encourage our children to have a desire to question, explore and reflect

Equal Opportunities

Every child is entitled to be taught RE regardless of their age, culture, gender, background or special need or disability. RE develops a balanced view of the multi-cultural society which we live in without compromising the faith, non-faith or cultural background of any pupil. The teaching of RE is approached sympathetically to all religious beliefs and teachers must remain mindful of the PREVENT and British Values Policy throughout their planned approach to teaching RE.

Health, Safety and Well-Being

Visits to places of worship and other RE related venues are encouraged as an important part of developing a child's understanding of the role religion plays in communities. Prior to all visits, staff will carry out a formal risk assessment, if necessary, visiting the venue prior to creating the risk assessment. Staff will ensure that the context of the learning that will take place during the visit, will not undermine a child's own faith or challenge their belief and will only be presenting a knowledge base about a faith. Permission will be sought from parents/carers for each child to attend the visit. We acknowledge the sensitivity that some

families may have with regard to their child visiting another place of worship, staff must ensure that they do all they can to assure parents and encourage pupil participation.

Teaching of RE

Class teachers are responsible for ensuring they teach the minimum amount of RE over the school year:

- EYFS – flexible linked to EYFS curriculum
- KS1 – 30 hours per year
- KS2 – 39 hours per year

All RE learning will be linked to one of the following areas of learning in line with the Hertfordshire Locally Agreed RE Syllabus (2017):

- Beliefs and practices
- Symbols and actions
- Prayers, worship and reflection
- Identify and belonging
- Ultimate questions
- Human responsibility and values
- Justice and fairness

The following religions are covered:

- EYFS – encounter Christianity and other religions
- KS1 – Christianity and one other
- KS2 – Christianity and 3 others (LKS2 Islam, Hinduism or Sikhism, UKS2 Judaism, Buddhism)

The children's learning should be captured in a variety of ways, including evidence in Topic books (years 1-3) or RE/PHSE books (years 4-6). Observations should be made with a focus on what they children say in the foundation stage classes. Suggested ideas include:

- Writing
- Drawing
- Role play
- Drama
- Discussions
- Class displays

The children's work should be marked in line with the school's up to date marking policy.

Monitoring and Assessment

Each half term the RE subject leader will collect a 'subject monitoring' sheet from each teacher; this will indicate which children are working below, at, or above age related expectations. Pupil premium children will be highlighted.

The RE subject leader will do regular learning walks, collect evidence of children's work and talk to the children about their learning.

Resources

All RE resources are kept in the HUB and are clearly labelled. All resources should be handled with care and returned after use. The subject leader receives a small budget each year and should be approached if any resources are damaged. New resources can also be purchased with permission from subject leader.