

Religious Education at The Trinity CE Primary Academy

With faith we live, learn and grow together.

Enquiry

Communication

Community

Independence

Intent

RE – We are theologians

The R.E. Council says, ‘the ability to understand the faith or belief of individuals and communities and how these may shape their culture or behaviour, is an invaluable asset for children in modern day Britain.’

At The Trinity Church of England Primary Academy, the aim of Religious Education is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. We aim to understand the way that religious beliefs shape our lives and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

It is our intent for the Religious Education curriculum to be equally ambitious for every child in order to engage, inspire, challenge and encourage pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions, explore different religious beliefs, values and traditions and develop understanding of the numerous religious traditions, beliefs and practices that are followed in our multi-cultural society.

At The Trinity C of E Primary Academy, Religious Education is taught throughout the school in such a way as to reflect the overall aims, values, and philosophy of the school. As a Church of England school, Religious Education plays an important role, along with other curriculum areas, particularly PSHE and the teaching of British Values, in promoting the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of our children. It promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourages pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection.

Enquiry – Within RE each unit has a main question. Each lesson has an ancillary question which is building to answer the unit question at the end through an exit task.

Communication – Through RE, the children have opportunities to communicate verbally and through written means. Oracy is a key part of RE especially within discussion activities.

Community – Through RE, there are opportunities to work collaboratively across the school and with our local church and parish links. Each class will have the opportunity to visit St James Church within their RE progression.

Independence – Through RE, and a clearly sequenced progression of learning, children have the opportunity to apply their learning to become independent learners.

Implementation

Our RE curriculum stems from the ELGs and the opportunities we provide to our foundation stage children. In EYFS the children have plenty of opportunities to explore similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country. They have the opportunity to draw on their experiences and what has been read in class.

As a school we follow The Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus through the use of the Emmanuel Project and Understanding Christianity. As a Church of England School RE has high profile within the curriculum and is a priority for senior leaders.

It has been agreed that having taken into account the requirements and guidelines presented in the Agreed Syllabus, the following religions have been selected for study: Christianity – through ‘Understanding Christianity’ and ‘The Emmanuel Project’. As Christianity is the main faith, 60% of the RE teaching time is dedicated to this area. Within the remaining 40% we teach the following other religions: Judaism (KSI), Hinduism (Y4 and Y6) and Islam (Y3 and Y5)

RE is taught weekly in line with Church of England Statement of Entitlement: **this should aim to be close to 10% but must be no less than 5% in key stages 1-4**. We also dedicate 3 full days across the year to teaching of the concepts Incarnation, Salvation and Creation. This is alongside learning about Christian charities such as Christian Aid and The Children’s Society which are explored within and in addition to RE lessons.

Impact

The children at The Trinity enjoy learning about other religions and why people choose to, or choose not to, follow a religion. Through their R.E. learning, they are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. Through R.E, our children are developing an understanding of other people’s cultures and ways of life and worship, which they are then able to communicate to the wider community. At The Trinity our children develop their skills of enquiry and response through the use of religious vocabulary, questioning and empathy; skills of reflection, expression, application, analysis and evaluation of beliefs, values and practices, and the communication of personal responses to these.

Religious Education at The Trinity encourages pupils to consider challenging questions of the meaning and purpose of life; beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality; issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. Our children understand the influence of religion on individuals, families, communities and cultures.

The impact of our curriculum is monitored through both formative and summative assessment opportunities. Use of The Emmanuel Project and Understanding Christianity means that there is guidance for teachers in assessing children against the learning objectives. Regular retrieval practice will be included within the units to ensure that the



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children build schema. Elicitation tasks are used prior to each unit of work to check on previous knowledge. Exit tasks are used for children to showcase their learning.