

Garstang Community Primary School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Legal Requirements

'...all state schools...must teach Religious Education to pupils at every Key Stage.'

The National Curriculum in England: Framework document 2013, p4

RE is a subject covered within the school curriculum and is distinct from collective worship which is not counted as curriculum time.

RE takes up 5% of the annual total curriculum time which is delivered in flexible and creative ways.

The Place of RE in the Curriculum

The Agreed Syllabus seeks to support children and young people in reflecting upon, developing and affirming their own beliefs, values and attitudes through the exploration of shared human experience and of the place and significance of religion in the contemporary world.

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

RE is a valued subject which welcomes the difficult questions about life, beliefs, God, right and wrong and what it means to be human. It develops the children's knowledge and understanding of faiths represented in their local community and the wider world. RE allows children to learn about and challenge their own and each other's beliefs and values in an unbiased and safe environment.

Although RE is a distinct subject it makes important contributions to their parts of the curriculum, eg PSHE, SEAL, SMSC as well as developing higher order thinking skills, spiritual development and deep personal development.

The Aim of Religious Education

The aim of RE is that children:

- Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews

- Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and importance of religions and worldviews
- Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

At the centre of RE at Garstang Community is the question, “What is it to be human? Through an enquiry based RE curriculum we intend to give the children the skills they need to rationally and intelligently address this and many of the other big questions they will face throughout their lives.

‘Religious Education does not seek to urge religious beliefs on pupil by promoting one religion over another.’

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED SYLLABUS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The staff at Garstang Community will follow the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016.

Religious Education at Garstang Community will reflect and represent the religions found within the school community. It will also take into account the religions found in the immediate geographical area surrounding the school (locally) and beyond (nationally and globally). The staff at Garstang Community will deliver a two year rolling programme which consists of 3 investigations of Christianity (God, Jesus and the Church) each year as well as investigations on the Sikh Dharma, Islam and Buddhism one year then Judaism, Hindu Dharma and Islam the second year.

Planning

Planning for Religious Education will follow the format which has been designed to incorporate the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education (2016).

Planning will include the four elements of the Field of Enquiry (Shared Human Experience, Beliefs and Values, Living Religious Traditions and the Search for Personal Meaning).

Progression of skills will be ensured by following the skills listed on the Key Learning in Religious Education document (Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016). The skills are presented in an Age Related format.

Creative planning makes the RE experience more meaningful and real for the pupils at Garstang Community. However where the links are tenuous RE will be taught as a stand alone subject for a blocked amount of time. Planning and delivery are creative and a wide variety of approaches are used including visits to sacred places and visitors into school.

Planning will be shared and discussed with parents when requested.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

It is recognised that parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child from Religious Education, then arrangements are made for that child to be withdrawn during the lessons by the class teacher in consultation with the Head teacher. It will be requested that the parents present their request for withdrawal in writing to the Head Teacher who will then send this information to SACRE.

Assessment

At Garstang CP School we use the key learning on the planning to assess our children. The results of the final assessment task in Year 2 and Year 6 will be sent to Lancashire SACRE (The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education). The number of children working at Year 2 and Year 6 will be requested via the Portal.

Resources

The resources are stored in a central position and include artefacts, books, posters and DVDs. They are being updated continually.

A.Ayers 2019