

Creech St Michael C of E Primary Religious Education POLICY

"Together, we love, learn and grow!"



Introduction

As a Church of England voluntary Controlled Primary School we have a clear ethos handed down since the school was established...

"Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at Parish and Diocesan level.

At Creech St Michael C of E Primary School we strive to offer a high quality, rounded education for our children, in the context of the Christian values of love, care and respect, and in partnership with their families and the community.

Our aim is:

- Enable everyone to reach for, and achieve their best.
- Educate the whole child.
- Create a welcoming environment where we want to be.
- Build our self-worth, humility and resilience.
- Encourage esteem of others and self.
- Value, respect and include everyone and celebrate their gifts.
- Develop a sense of belonging and responsibility to our school, community and the wider world.

Statement of Entitlement

Religious education is taught in accordance with the Church of England statement of entitlement for RE.

The subject within the National Curriculum

RE is a statutory requirement within the basic curriculum and is taught weekly. The school follows the Somerset Agreed Syllabus, 'Awareness, Mystery and Value 2019'.

Continuity and Progression

RE is central to our school ethos and vision. It offers children the opportunity for personal reflection and develops the children's spirituality, nurturing a caring, well-adjusted approach to life. The school also aims to encourage a healthy respect and understanding of people of different backgrounds and cultures.

We believe the RE should:

- Reflect the school's distinctive Christian character
- Be of the highest standard, always striving for excellence

In accordance with Somerset AMV Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, skills, knowledge, attitudes and the understanding of core beliefs are developed through the schemes of work and through the use of the Understanding Christianity materials.

At Key Stage 1, children will study aspects of Christianity plus Judaism.

At Key Stage 2, children will study Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam.

Purpose and Aims of the Subject

By teaching this subject we progressively develop:

- Reflection and children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- A positive, caring atmosphere based on a sense of community and shared values.
- Knowledge of the Bible.
- An understanding of the nature of Jesus Christ and Christianity.
- Knowledge of other faiths and to understand the beliefs, teachings and traditions of them.
- The knowledge, skills and understanding needed for making responsible life decisions.
- A positive attitude towards living in a society of diverse religions.
- The key attitudes: self-esteem, respect, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder.

Teaching and Learning

RE is taught as a discrete subject. Children have the opportunity to respond to their learning in a variety of ways e.g. drama, poetry, discussions etc. RE books or class floor books are used to record learning. Learning is differentiated where appropriate in line with other subject areas. School and classroom displays will celebrate, reflect and reinforce children's learning in RE and the school ethos. Learning will be supported by visitors from both of the village churches and the diocese and from visitors of other faiths.

Assessment and Expectations

Teachers assess pupils' progress in RE against the core beliefs as stated in the Assessment for Awareness, Mystery and Value 2019 document. Teachers assess the children as having an understanding of the core beliefs, working towards it or having an understanding at 'greater depth'. The children also complete a bi-annual assessment on incarnation and salvation. These written pieces move through the school with the children to show progression in their understanding and learning.

Monitoring and evaluation

The RE Subject Leader monitors the long term plans for RE to ensure effective coverage and approaches to learning. The assessment documents are monitored by the RE Leader and shared with the Head Teacher. RE is allocated a budget each year that can be used for professional development and/or resources.

RE Resources

The RE subject lead has attended the full training linked to the Understanding Christianity materials and has cascaded this to other members of staff (although this needs to be cascaded to new members). These materials are readily available for staff to use to support their teaching of Christianity.

We have a selection of boxed resources to support learning about some of the major religions of the world (Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism). These include books, artefacts, posters and DVDs. The local churches and church community are also regarded as a valuable resource.

Exclusion from RE and Collective Worship

It is a legal requirement of the National Curriculum that RE is taught and that the syllabus is covered but teachers do have the right to withdraw from it on religious grounds. Parents also have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons and collective worship. The school is obliged to honour any such requests and will take advice to ensure that all appropriate actions are taken and necessary alternative provision is put in place.

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