

Cuckney C of E Primary School

Cuckney C of E Primary School



Dream, Believe, Achieve

'Nothing will be impossible with God' Luke 1:37

Name of Publication	R.E. policy
Date of Issue	January 2023
Author	Ben Haynes-Greenwood
Responsibility for review	Governing body
Copies of documents are kept	In the Head Teacher's policy folder
Date Reviewed:	

Signed:

L.C. Crossland

L C Crossland
Head teacher

A square box containing a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'M Lovell'.

Margaret Lovell
Chair of Governors

Cuckney C of E Primary School

Introduction

Religious Education has the power to provide children an opportunity to enhance their understanding of the world and reflect on some of life's 'big questions.' Cuckney Church of England Primary School offers a distinctive curriculum as a Voluntary Controlled school. Our curriculum helps to develop children's knowledge and comprehension of Christianity alongside the major world religions. This allows our children to reflect on what it means to have faith and be spiritual. It strengthens key skills such as empathy, tolerance and respect.

Aims

The aims of Religious Education at Cuckney C of E Primary are to enable all children:

- To show how our local community was shaped and built on Christianity and its values.
- To understand how Christianity has influenced the lives of millions worldwide.
- To learn about the other major religions and world views.
- To develop an understanding of religious traditions.
- To develop an awareness of moral issues in life experiences.
- To understand spirituality and what it means to be of faith.
- To appreciate how religion can shape cultural differences in society.
- To be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life.
- To develop supported and informed independent thinking to make reasoned judgements about religious issues in our world today.
- To have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society.

The legal position of Religious Education

Our Religious Education curriculum meets the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act. The Act stipulates that Religious Education is compulsory for all children, including those who are less than five years old. The Act allows parents to withdraw their child from Religious Education classes if they so wish, although this should only be done once the parents have given written notice to the school governors. The Act also states that the RE curriculum should reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, and that it should, at the same time, take account of the teachings and practices of other major religions. The Religious Education curriculum forms an important part of our school's spiritual, moral and social teaching. It also promotes education for citizenship. Our school RE curriculum is based on the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus, prepared by the SACRE in 2020, and adopted by the Diocese for use in Church Schools. The Agreed Syllabus covers the statutory framework from which we draw our Long Term Plans, and devise our scheme of work. In September 2021, the school adopted the new Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus. The new syllabus coincides directly with the National Curriculum and structures the lesson and teaching accordingly for a progressive approach to RE. Religious Education is allocated 36 hours of tuition per year in Reception and Key Stage 1 and 45 hours of tuition per year at Key Stage 2. This is in line with the recommendation

Cuckney C of E Primary School

of the 2021 Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus. This time is for teaching of religious education and does not include time allocated for Collective Worship.

Teaching and learning

The teaching and learning in Religious Education is based up on the key concept of good quality teaching, which allows children to enhance their knowledge of religious traditions, practices and concepts. This knowledge will therefore allow children to develop their own set of values and promotes personal spiritual growth.

We encourage children to think about their own views and values in relation to the themes and topics studied in the RE curriculum, appreciating that there are many differing views over key themes and ideas. Our teaching and learning in RE enables children to build on their own experiences of religion, such as the celebration of festivals like Harvest, Christmas and Easter, but also teach about other important festivals such as Diwali and Passover to develop their holistic understanding. We have strong links to the local church who regularly lead worship and religious sessions within school. The curriculum covers the beliefs of individual faiths and allows our children to compare and contrast the many features of following a particular faith. As all children learn in different ways, we provide suitable learning opportunities by matching the task to the ability of the child. To support this, we:

- provide activities that suit varying learning styles within our class;
- set tasks likely to provide a variety of outcomes through their open-endedness;
- plan differentiated tasks to suit a range of abilities;
- resource in many different ways to provide different opportunities
- use support staff appropriately.

Curriculum

Our curriculum has been organised using a blend of the Agreed Syllabus and the Understanding Christianity program. Understanding Christianity allows children to do just that – with both ‘core learning’ and ‘digging deeper’ sessions to build upon prior knowledge.

The Agreed Syllabus is split into four key learning areas per year group and between Foundation and Year 6, it covers the six main religions of our world: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism. Understanding Christianity focuses on eight areas for developing Christian understanding, and these include: God, Creation, Fall, The People of God, Incarnation (Christmas), Gospel, Salvation (Easter) and The Kingdom of God.

Through Jigsaw, we teach our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship - where we teach the children about the values and moral beliefs that underpin individual choices of behaviour. We also promote the values and attitudes required for citizenship in a democracy by teaching respect for others and the need for personal responsibility. In general, by promoting tolerance and understanding of other people, we enable children to appreciate what it means to be positive members of our multicultural society.

Cuckney C of E Primary School

Assessment

Assessment in Religious Education is done through making informal judgements through observation of children's work, contributions to whole class discussions and how they have used the task set to meet the learning objectives of the individual sessions. Each term, teaching staff making a professional judgement on the progress of each child in R.E. and record this on the school's tracking system. This data is analysed by the R.E. co-ordinator and used to inform future teaching and learning.

Monitoring

The RE subject leader is responsible for monitoring the standards of the children's work and the quality of the teaching in Religious Education. They are also responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of Religious Education, for being informed about current developments in the subject, and for providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school. We are members of the RE network for Nottinghamshire which meets three times a year.

Other aspects

Our separate Relationships and Sex Education policy, Collective Worship policy and our British Values mission statement are also available on the school website.