

Lea and Garsdon CE Primary School

Religious Education Policy

Healthy trees bearing good fruit - Matthew 7 v 17



Our Vision

To develop children who are healthy in body and mind, enjoy life and fulfil their potential so that they have a positive impact on the world.

Our Core Values

1. Kindness
2. Wellbeing
3. Gratitude
4. Individuality
5. Community
6. Inspiration

Policy adopted by the Governors on _____

Chair of Governor's Signature: _____

Headteacher's Signature: _____

Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School

Religious Education Policy

Introduction

Religious Education is unique in the school curriculum in that it is neither a core subject nor a foundation subject but in 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils.'

Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School therefore the provision of RE must be in accordance with the Trust Deed of the School. The Governors in consultation with the Head teacher, following advice from the diocese, have decided to adopt the Locally Agreed Syllabus Thinking Together and supplement this with material from the Diocese and elsewhere.

In Religious Education at Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School we aim that pupils might:-

- ❖ Develop a knowledge and understanding of Christianity and its impact on our local community, and on our society today.
- ❖ Develop a knowledge and understanding of some of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain today.
- ❖ Develop a sense of respect for religious traditions, beliefs and practice.
- ❖ Grow in their spiritual development.
- ❖ Develop a sense of awe and wonder and mystery in R.E. and across all their learning.
- ❖ Develop skills and attitudes which will support their personal, moral, social and cultural development. (See locally agreed syllabus for skills and attitudes.)
- ❖ Explore some questions of meaning and consider how the world's religions have responded to them.
- ❖ Think about their own beliefs and values in the light of the beliefs of others, both religious and non-religious, and the values of the school community.

Approaches to the teaching of RE

In order to make religious education a lively, active subject we employ a variety of teaching methods including art, music, discussion, the development of thinking skills, drama, the use of artefacts, pictures, stories, and the use of periods of stillness and reflection.

Where possible we want our pupils to have opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of local faith communities.

Religious Education at Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School is delivered in the following way.

We use as a basis for our planning the Wiltshire Scheme of Work. As a source of ideas and teaching strategies we also make use of the Dioceses Values for Life syllabus.

In accordance with the structure of the locally agreed syllabus we have agreed that each year groups main focus religion will be **Christianity**, this will be known as their major faith studied. Each year group will also spend time focussing on another religion, known as the minor religion being studied (major and minor reflecting the time spent on the religion not the value) and will be:

Pupils in Year One and Two exploring Judaism
Pupils in Year Three and Four connecting with Judaism and Islam
Pupils in Year Five and Six connecting with Islam

All year groups will also explore a variety of the main religions throughout the year.

Assessment and monitoring of RE

In line with the school policy on assessment staff plan lessons and evaluate the children's understanding through questions and discussion.

It is expected that the teacher taking the RE lesson will be responsible for the regular assessment of their pupils through questioning, observing, discussion and marking work set. This assessment will be used formatively by the teacher to ensure that each pupil is set work that is appropriately challenging.

Teaching and learning in RE is monitored within the school through analysis of assessment data, curriculum walks and talks, and observations of RE lessons.

Arrangements for withdrawal

At Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents, of course, have the legal right to withdraw their children from Religious Education on the grounds of conscience. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the head teacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision and practice of religious education at Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School.

The right of teachers to withdraw is acknowledged