



Walsh C of E Junior School

Religious Education Policy

Revised: October 202

Next Review: October 2023

Walsh C of E Junior School Vision statement:

Jesus said "I tell you Peter, you are a rock and on this rock foundation I will build my church." (Matthew 16:18)

At Walsh C of E Junior School, we strive to be like St. Peter, answering God's call to us, challenging ourselves and showing resilience, even if learning gets difficult. We aim to follow the example set by Jesus as Peter did, to live our lives in peace, in fellowship with others and the world around us.

Intent

At Walsh CE Junior School we teach RE so children learn to:

- appreciate the distinctive nature of religion and the contribution of religious and spiritual insights and values to the individual's search for meaning in life
- learn about Christianity God, Jesus Christ, the Church, the Bible, Christian ways of life
- learn about Judaism and Islam and aspects of other faiths represented in the classroom and show respect for all.
- develop interest in and enthusiasm for RE to enhance their understanding of themselves, others and the natural world to help form their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural education and personal values and beliefs
- develop the ability to make reasoned, reflective, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues
- recognise religions' influence on their culture and community life
- to reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are mainly Christian, but to take account of other religions represented and to celebrate diversity.
- to start laying sound foundations for future development of religious understanding, spiritual insight and moral conviction

Implementation

At Walsh C of E Junior School RE is taught accordance with the Surrey Agreed Syllabus 2017-2022 to all pupils, recognising the school's special character as a Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) School. It is taught alongside the school's aims and ethos, developing the strong links between Religious Education and the Relationship and Sex Education, in ways which are appropriate for pupils aged 7-11. To help pupils to develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own. Our children are taught RE in units of work, in whole Pause Days, through collective worship and regularly during other curriculum areas.

Impact

Through our teaching of Religious Education and the School's ethos, we want our children to be able to make links to their lives and that of others, understand and respect different religions so everyone can live and work alongside one another with no prejudice and make good decisions within their lives using the skills and information they have learnt about. We also hope for the children to carry our school values through their lives of Peace, Fellowship and Resilience to underpin their moral, spiritual and social decisions

Entitlement and Teaching

Walsh Junior C of E School is a voluntary controlled Church of England school. This means that the teaching of RE is given significant importance. In order to allow the children to have the opportunity to explore deeper questions about life and to learn about Christianity alongside a wide range of other faiths and cultures, it is placed in the Core part of our Teaching, Learning and Assessment model. Further to this, we aim to allocate 10% curriculum time to the subject.

As a Church of England school, we approach Religious Education in a way that will not only introduce children to an understanding of the nature of Christian beliefs and practices but will provide a foundation for Christian learning for life. Children will be encouraged in their exploration of the spiritual dimension of life and the environment will be set for them to experience an awareness of God. Further opportunities will be given for children to learn about other world faiths, not merely to compare but to enhance their understanding of the Christian faith. The school works closely with both the Guildford Diocesan Board following their guidelines and tailoring them to meet the specific needs of the children in its care. We have at least one school trip each year or visitor in school with a religious focus based upon the curriculum and with also try to incorporate Religious Education within our English curriculum.

Assessment

Termly assessment is carried out through diagnostic marking of both AT1 and AT2 strands. Each pupil is given a level against each strand and class lists detailing these levels are to be handed to the RE Subject Leader together with evidence of learning for a lower ability, middle ability and a higher ability pupil. The RE Subject Leader will analyse assessment termly to monitor the effectiveness of teaching to both the AT1 and AT2 strands, and identify trends. A best fit level will be given as part of summative assessment and recorded in the same system as Maths and English, at the end of the Summer Term. It should be noted that the diocese currently use levels to assess pupils' attainment

RE Curriculum Overview

We work to the Surrey Syllabus, developed by the Guildford Diocesan Board of Education in 2017-2022. The Surrey Syllabus was designed to enable pupils to:

- demonstrate an appreciation of the nature of religion and belief and the important contribution of religious and spiritual insights and values to the individual's search for meaning in life, whilst acknowledging that this may also come from a non-religious perspective
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and of the other principal religions and beliefs represented in Great Britain, both through their history and their contemporary diverse expressions
- develop interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion & beliefs and enhance their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- develop the ability to make reasoned, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues
- recognise the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on the individual, on culture and on communities throughout the world.

Monitoring

Monitoring of RE is done by the subject leader. Observations will be used to highlight strengths and areas for further support in teaching and learning delivery. Books will be scrutinised and both children's and adults views will be listened to

Faith Team

The school has both an adult and Children's Faith Teams who regularly meet (at least once every half term) to review all aspects of Collective Worship, RE, leadership and management and Christian Distinctiveness. They are involved in things like services, worship planning, looking at RE and thinking about being the best church schools we can.