

Hadley Wood School Religious Education Policy July 2019



Vision

At Hadley Wood Primary School, we strive to help our children develop mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We provide a happy stimulating environment where all children are cared for spiritually, morally, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally and where all are valued as individuals. We believe that Religious Education provides an opportunity to celebrate and show awareness of differences within our school and the wider world. It is a subject that celebrates diversity and challenges stereotypes.

We deliver a broadly Christian curriculum whilst also developing the children's knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths, and addressing the fundamental questions in life. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We help the children learn from religions as well as about religions.

Aims

The aims of religious education at Hadley Wood School are to help children:

- develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences
- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity as well as other major world religions and value systems found in Britain
- develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today
- develop investigative and research skills and to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues
- have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society
- understand and develop fundamental British values of respect and tolerance

Planning and Delivery of Religious Education

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 London Borough of Enfield Agreed SACRE Syllabus (a copy of which can be made available if requested) and meets all of the requirements set out within this document. However, it has been tailored to meet the diverse needs of our cohort.

Hadley Wood School is an accredited Values-based Education School and has an agreed set of school values selected by pupils, parents, staff and governors. In RE, as in all subject areas, we aim to include the values in our teaching and discussions. This allows children to focus on the value of the months and learn in a respectful manner which is fundamental to the study of religions and religious practices.

We base our teaching and learning style in RE on the key principle that good teaching in RE allows children both to learn about religious traditions and to reflect on what the religious ideas and concepts mean to them. Our teaching enables children to extend their own sense of values and promotes their spiritual growth and development. We encourage children to think about their own views and values in relation to the themes and topics studied in the RE curriculum and articulate these in an open environment of mutual respect and tolerance of others' traditions and cultures.

Each year group will study a 'Big Question' unit which will help develop pupil's curiosity and ability to have mutual respect for and show tolerance towards those with different faiths and beliefs, and for those without faith.

We are proud to have links with all major religions. We have organised visits to local places of worship and invited local religious groups into school to talk to the children. Parents and children are also encouraged to share their own religious beliefs in assemblies and during our annual multicultural week. This is a delightful way to celebrate all of the cultures and religions that make up Hadley Wood School.

Statutory Requirements

Religious Education and a daily act of worship must be included in the school curriculum as required by the Education Reform Act 1988. It also states that a syllabus should *"reflect the fact that the religious traditions of Great Britain are, in the main, Christian while taking account of other religions in Great Britain."*

Parents are allowed to withdraw their child from Religious Education classes if they so wish, however, it is intended that the RE provided at Hadley Wood School (including the collective act of worship and guest speakers) is inclusive and respectful of the integrity of all pupils and staff. Where parents express concern about their child participating in RE lessons, we request that they meet with the Headteacher in order to establish a shared understanding of the statutory requirements, the school's planning and our approach to learning and teaching in RE.

Assessment

Assessment has been included as an integral part of each topic. Children are also encouraged to self-evaluate their learning, though use of assessment criteria as well as techniques in lessons and reviews at the end of sessions or units of work.

Inclusion

Hadley Wood Primary School is a fully inclusive school. All children regardless of race, age, ability, gender or S.E.N.D. are able to access the R.E. / P.S.H.C. E. curriculum. Teachers take into account the needs of individual pupils ensuring differentiation of teaching styles. Lessons are planned to ensure all learning styles are included to maximise learning opportunities for all children. These include activities for auditory, visual and kinaesthetic learners.

Working in Partnership with Parents

We recognise and value the interest, support and involvement of the parents in their children's Religious Education development and keep them up to date with any developments in this area. We actively encourage parents to help their children in learning through discussions and educational visits where possible. We also welcome parents into the classroom or assemblies to discuss their religious beliefs and share cultural traditions.

Resources and Training

The school has a range of Religious Education resources appropriate for the teaching of all the major faiths. The Religious Education Co-ordinator attends RE courses and feeds back relevant information and training to staff. Staff meetings are used to discuss current trends and practices in keeping with the curriculum.

Co-ordinator Role

The RE Co-ordinator is expected to:

- model outstanding teaching in RE
- ensure all teachers are familiar with the National Curriculum and help them to map and plan lessons based on the Enfield Agreed Syllabus (SACRE)
- prepare, organise and lead INSET where appropriate

- monitor RE learning and teaching, setting targets for the future which include any National/LA initiatives
- conduct regular work scrutiny to ensure RE learning is evidenced and that progress is being made
- monitor and observe colleagues teaching and planning with a view to identifying the support they need
- attend meetings and courses provided by RE consultants
- provide information for parents in the newsletters
- discuss regularly with the Headteacher the progress of Religious Education in the school

Accepted by the Governing Body: July 2019

Review Date: July 2022