



Scargill Church of England Primary School

Religion and Worldviews Policy

Date policy approved: January 2023

Date of Review:

Religion and worldviews is a key part of our curriculum and provides children with knowledge and understanding of major world religions and worldviews. The principal aim of R&W is to engage children in enquiry in to important human questions that religion and world views address, so they can develop understanding and skills needed to appreciate and evaluate different responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

The Governors of Scargill have determined that the school uses the Derby Diocesan Religious Education Syllabus, as a basis for the R&W curriculum. As a school, we use this alongside Understanding Christianity, to ensure curriculum coverage. R&W is taught through play, drama, art, writing, videos, workshops and discussion and provides children with opportunities to ask and answer questions, extend their knowledge and consider their own and others beliefs and practices. Where possible, Children are given the opportunity to visit places of worship and take part in workshops or meet with visitors with different worldviews at least bi-annually throughout their time at Scargill

Teachers use themes from the syllabus, plus Understanding Christianity units, in order to encourage children to look at their own experience, ask questions, discover things for themselves, explore ideas and respond creatively. Christianity is a world religion, but other worldviews also play an important role in our society and have much to contribute to education, therefore opportunities are given for the inclusion of different worldviews within the curriculum.

Legal Responsibilities

In accordance with the law we provide religious education for all pupils registered at the school, except for those withdrawn at the request of their parents. The teaching of R&W comprises 5% of the curriculum timetable as required by the Agreed Syllabus.

We would not expect for any child to be withdrawn from any lesson as parents have chosen a church school for their child to attend. Should a child be withdrawn from R&W the teacher will make alternative arrangements to ensure that they are working purposefully in a safe environment.

Parents must make a withdrawal request, in writing, each school year.

The Aims & Purpose of Religion and worldviews

The principal aim of R&W is *'to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.'*

(Agreed syllabus 2020 p6)

The curriculum for R&W aims to ensure that all pupils:

1. Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews
2. Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews.
3. Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews.

(Agreed syllabus 2020 p7)

Role of the subject leader

- To keep abreast of the latest research regarding effective teaching strategies to deliver good quality Religious Education in accordance with current Ofsted criteria.
- To continue to raise the profile of R&W throughout the school as part of a core curriculum.

- To be available to colleagues to help raise their knowledge, understanding, expertise and confidence as/when required in teaching specific units of R&W.
- To organise purchase of necessary artefacts, posters, books, photocopiable material, videos etc to support and enhance each module of work throughout the school.
- Establish a resource list and keep up to date.
- To analyse R&W assessment across the school.
- To monitor continuity and progression through activities such as learning walks, looking at evidence from books, videos, photos and displays and discussions with children and staff.

Teaching and Learning

R&W lessons should be carefully planned to ensure the curriculum aims are met and that children build on their learning to make progress in the 3 key areas mentioned above. R&W lessons include a range of learning styles and activities including the use of ICT, collaborative work, reflective time, text based research, drama, art, discussion, visits and visitors.

RW lessons should provide opportunities for:

- provoking challenging questions
- developing pupils' knowledge, awareness and understanding of world religions
- reflection and spiritual development
- developing pupils' respect for and sensitivity to others
- promoting discernment and combat prejudice.

Religions to be studied

In accordance with the Agreed Syllabus, all pupils learn from Christianity in each key stage. In addition, pupils will learn from the principal religions represented in the UK, in line with the law. Furthermore, children from families where non-religious worldviews are held are represented in almost all of our classrooms. These worldviews, including for example Humanism, will also be the focus for study in some units of work. (Agreed Syllabus p13)

Reception: Children will encounter Christianity and other faiths, as part of their growing sense of self, their own community and their place within it.

Key Stage 1: Christians, Muslims and Jewish people

Key Stage 2: Christians, Muslims, Hindus and Jewish people

NB: Sikhism and Buddhism are included in the syllabus for KS3 and we are not required to cover them in years R-6.

This overview is to be used as a basis and may vary depending on class structures, however all children will have the opportunity to study Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam during their time at Scargill regardless of class structures.

We also acknowledge that other religions may be taught with reference to special occasions or when learning about people from other countries or cultures. It may also be appropriate to learn about the religious beliefs of class members if differing from those mentioned above.

We understand that legally R&W must be non-denominational although we acknowledge that teaching about denominational differences is allowed.

Pupils will regularly have the opportunity to visit the local parish church.

Where possible and appropriate children will also have the opportunity to visit another place of worship and meet a visiting speaker, either virtually or physically, whilst in each department.

Curriculum time for Religious Education

A minimum of 5% of curriculum time is required.

KS1 36 hours per year

KS2 45 hours per year

This allocated time is distinct from the time we set aside for its daily collective worship.

Programme of Study

The Agreed Syllabus, combined with Understanding Christianity, will be used as the basis for the programme of study throughout the school (R to y6).

The Scheme of Work

A school scheme of work overview will be followed to ensure coverage and progress from year to year. This will be reviewed on a yearly basis depending on class structure.

Pupil achievement/assessment

Assessment is ongoing during each topic. At the end of each unit of work teachers/HLTAs complete an assessment grid for that unit of work noting which pupils are emerging, expected or exceeding against the objectives covered. In Reception, learning is assessed in line with other areas of learning.

Inclusion and special needs

Differentiation within R&W will enable specific children to learn effectively, will cater for any disability, will provide a range of learning opportunities other than written work (drama, use of artefacts, discussion, art etc) to facilitate sustaining pupils' interest through active engagement.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development.

Religion and worldviews is a key opportunity for children to develop morally, spiritually, socially and culturally. In R&W lessons, as well as PSHE and Collective Worship, pupils are invited to reflect on their personal responses to issues, consider other peoples' responses, and appreciate that for some people, belief in a spiritual dimension, is important.

We encourage children to consider the answers offered by faith groups to questions of meaning and purpose and problems within society and their own experience.

Religious Education also strongly supports the school's PSHE and citizenship teaching and learning by introducing pupils to the significance of belonging to a community, the diversity of communities in the wider community, faith rules and their application to moral and ethical issues and cultural influences on religious practice.