



Church of England
(Voluntary Aided)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' (Mark 12:30-31)

AIMS AND VALUES OF OUR SCHOOL

The children, parents, staff and Governors of our school have chosen our six core Christian values. They are:

Love, Respect, Friendship, Truthfulness, Creativity and Perseverance

Broadwas Church of England (VA) School aims to provide the best quality education possible in a stimulating environment where children feel happy and safe. Our core Christian values form the foundation of our ethos, creating a caring atmosphere for learning where cultural diversity is valued.

Our aims are:-

- To be a school where we are all Living Our Values Everyday (L.O.V.E)
- To be a happy, caring and welcoming school rooted firmly in Christian values and principles that safeguard and promote the welfare of all within the school community
- To provide a high quality education to ensure that all children reach their full potential
- To be a family orientated school that is at the heart of its community where all are respected and valued
- To develop our children's spirituality through encouraging curiosity, fostering a love of life and nurturing a sense of awe and wonder in the world around us
- To encourage children to be independent, resilient and resourceful to prepare them for the challenges of an ever-changing world
- To promote a life-long love of learning by providing a stimulating, rich, exciting and engaging curriculum tailored to meet individual needs
- To foster successful partnerships with parents, carers, the church and local community
- To provide opportunities for our children to develop respect and understanding of their own faith, beliefs and culture and that of others

RATIONALE

Broadwas Primary school is a Church of England School and our Religious Education reflects the values and ethos of our Christian foundation. We want to help each child be aware of the spiritual dimension of their own life and to be reflective and caring. We encourage understanding and respect for other peoples' beliefs and cultures. Our children are taught to value themselves and others.

Our Religious Education is based on The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (published by Worcestershire County Council 2015-2020, and supported by the Diocese of Worcester) and the Understanding Christianity Project 2016.

AIMS

At the heart of Religious Education at Broadwas is 'the teaching of Christianity, rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ.' (A Statement of Entitlement, Church of England, 2016)

At Broadwas Church of England (VA) School we aim:

- To provide our children with knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain and the wider world
- To develop our pupils' appreciation and understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook
- To develop in our children a capacity to engage in a search for meaning and purpose in order to enhance their own spiritual and moral growth
- To develop skills which enable children to express their own ideas and beliefs and begin to consider how these impact their own and other peoples' lives
- To develop an understanding and a positive attitude towards other people who hold beliefs different from their own
- To develop skills that enable them to find out and question key concepts such as belonging, purpose and truth

CURRIUCLUM OBJECTIVES

Foundation Stage

(Time allocation: 36 hours per year e.g. an hour a week, or less than an hour a week plus a series of RE days/theme weeks)

RE is taught through Early Years Foundation Guidelines – 'Knowledge and understanding of the world' and 'Personal, social and emotional development' and the Worcester agreed syllabus 2015/2020 and Understanding Christianity 2016.

Objectives

We enable our children to:

- Begin to know about their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people
- Begin to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others, among families, communities and traditions
- Form good relationships with adults and peers, taking turns and sharing fairly
- Begin to understand that there need to be agreed values and codes of behaviour for groups of people to work harmoniously together
- Understand what is right, what is wrong and why these matter; considering the consequences of their words and actions for themselves and others
- Understand that people have different needs, views, cultures and beliefs that need to be treated with respect
- Understand that they can expect others to treat their needs, views, cultures and beliefs with respect.
- Have a developing awareness of their own needs and feelings and be sensitive to those of others, responding appropriately
- Explore, observe and find out about places and objects that matter in different cultures and beliefs

Key Stage 1

(Time allocation: 36 hours per year e.g. an hour a week, or less than an hour a week plus a series of RE days/theme weeks)

Objectives

We enable our children to:

- Acquire a simple knowledge of aspects of the beliefs and practices of Christians, Jews and Muslims recognising some shared ideas and some differences
- Talk about religion and recognise different religious symbols and places of worship using appropriate vocabulary
- Recognise the function of different places, artefacts, pictures, words, stories and actions as religious
- Distinguish between right and wrong and begin to express their ideas and opinions in response
- Ask and answers about different religions, noticing and responding sensitively to some similarities between religions
- Explore, discuss and reflect upon their own feelings, ideas and opinions and some of the puzzling questions of life
- Begin to understand, find out and respond positively to the fact that different people have different ideas and beliefs

Key Stage 2

(Time allocation: 45 hours per year e.g. an hour a week or a series of RE days or weeks amounting to 45+ hours of RE)

Objectives

We enable our children to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam in respect of their key beliefs and the implications of these on their lifestyles
- Develop an understanding of different religious beliefs, symbols and traditions
- Make connections between different religious beliefs and practices, in order to develop an understanding of similarities and differences
- Acquire information from a variety of sources about different religious practices, ask appropriate questions and make simple inferences
- Develop their own spiritual and moral understanding by exploring and reflecting upon questions, in order to explore the meaning and purpose of life
- Have meaningful discussions about what is right and wrong and what is just and fair
- Respect the right of people to hold different values and beliefs

LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of our teaching and learning, we want our children to:

- Develop understanding of a range of religious practices and traditions
- Develop their individual spirituality
- Grow in awareness of themselves and to develop positive attitudes to their own emotions, life and learning
 - To share in the wonder of being alive
 - To feel valued and respected as a person
 - To appreciate their own gifts and needs
 - To acknowledge their own fears, anxieties and challenges
 - To express themselves freely
- Grow in awareness of others and to develop healthy relationships in a secure and nurturing setting, learning to co-operate with others and accepting people for who they are
- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Develop an interest in the world in which they live
 - To delight in the rich variety of our world
 - To develop a reverence towards all living things
 - To develop a sense of responsibility for their surroundings

RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE on the grounds that they wish to provide their own religious education. (School Standards and Framework Act 1998 S71 (3)). This will be the parents' responsibility.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

All children, regardless of gender, race or ability have equal access to the RE curriculum at our school. Children with Special Educational Needs are catered for by appropriate differentiation in the classroom. Through our RE teaching, our pupils should begin to develop some sensitive understanding of matters relating to race, other cultures and the equal worth of all people. We promote and develop this understanding through links with different schools and communities.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Informal assessments made by a teacher during and after each lesson, inform future planning and teaching. Assessment is recorded at the end of each RE unit using the school's assessment profile. Evidence of progress is seen in class RE journals and individual pupil books. Evidence of Spiritual development is recorded in Spiritual life journals in each class. Each child's Annual School Report contains a statement for attainment and effort in RE which is based upon the teacher's knowledge of the pupil's performance across a range of contexts.

This policy was reviewed and approved by Governors in February 2018 (minutes March 2018).