

RE POLICY 2019

Moor End is an urban primary school, serving children in the age range 3 - 11 years of age. We work to the new Lancashire Agreed Syllabus (updated Sept 2016).

- We recognise the variety of religious and non religious backgrounds from which our pupils may come. We welcome the diversity, and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child. We welcome the support of faith communities in RE and in general.
- We recognise the inter- relationship between pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which the RE curriculum plays in some of these areas.

The Agreed Syllabus seeks to support children and young people in reflecting upon, developing and affirming their own beliefs, values and attitudes through the exploration of shared human experience and of the place and significance of religion in the contemporary world.

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

RATIONALE

RE at Moor End will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are that:

- The basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll.
- The content of RE shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain.
- The RE which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Lancashire LA (published in 2012, updated 2016)

AIMS

Within the framework of the law and the agreed syllabus, our aims in RE are :-

- To enable each child to explore our shared human experience and the questions of meaning and purpose which arise from our experiences.
- To enable pupils to know about and understand the beliefs and values and living religious traditions of some of the great religions of the world, particularly those represented in Lancashire and the UK. Among these religions, Christianity has a particular place and is taught in three units in each year of the primary phase.
- To promote respect, sensitivity and cultural awareness by teaching about the religions represented in the region and the country.
- To affirm each child in his/her own family tradition, religious or secular.
- To provide children with opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- To develop the ability of pupils to think about, and develop for themselves, beliefs and values by which they can live through studying the lived experiences and beliefs and values of the major world faith.

ORGANISATION

A detailed scheme of work is available for teachers and other interested people alongside this policy. It has been written in the light of the Agreed Syllabus. RE will be delivered in six units each year - each unit having a theme. Christianity (taught in three of the units per year) and Islam and Hindu Dharma are the three religions progressed throughout the school. Three other religions are not progressed Judaism, Buddhism and Hindu Dharma but they are taught at regular intervals.

All units are taken from the Non Statutory Scheme of work.

No teacher can be an instant expert in six religions. Staff who feel the need to build up their own subject knowledge can take up some training opportunities. The RE subject leader can supply reading material and online resources.

PLANNING

Time Allocation

The National Framework for RE recognises RE as a core subject, required for all pupils. The time allocated at Moor End will be 36 hours per year at Key Stage 1 and 45 hours per year at Key Stage 2 as recommended and endorsed by the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus. RE curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship, even where the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Each terms unit will be blocked into one week and taught over 3 afternoons.

Teaching and Learning Styles

OFSTED reports suggest that the range of teaching and learning strategies in use of RE is often too narrow in over using stories and a limited range of drawing and written tasks. Our policy is to aim to increase the use in RE of art, drama, thinking skills, speaking and listening activities, visits, posters, photos, dvd's, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies. Cross curricular work is encouraged, in line with whole school policy on teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of teaching to the attainment targets of the Agreed Syllabus in a balanced way.

RESOURCES

Resources are stored in one central area. Large resources are in the upstairs storeroom in boxes, books and additional resources are in the cupboard in the same room. Other books are in the library. The Subject Leader has put together a pack for each unit within each year group. Staff are invited to liaise with the Subject Leader to plug gaps in the resources, this will inform future spending.

Visits to places of worship

We use local places of worship and local clergy and other members of the community to meet with children and be involved in RE. We also aim to enable children at KS2 to visit places of worship from other major religions. The RE subject leader will organise these educational visits.

SEN

Whole school policy with regard to special needs and differentiation applies to RE, teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational 'ability'.

ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

We report on pupils' progress and attainment to parents, as required by law and the Lancashire Syllabus. We use agreed statements from Lancashire Agreed Syllabus to report at the end of the year on Expected standards for each Progressed religion. We will make specific, individual, accurate comments on each child's progress in RE in end of year reports, based on regular monitoring of work with regard to the expected standards of the Agreed syllabus. We will transfer this information to new schools when pupils leave us.

A folder of examples of children's work, which is designed to help teachers make judgements about attainment and progress, is available. Staff are asked to add to it copies of pupils' work that provide clear evidence of achievement. This approach to exemplifying standards aims to clarify our understanding of what makes for quality in learning about religions and learning from religions.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We intend that this policy should operate for the next 5 years, and then be fully reviewed by all staff and Governors. To ensure that the policy is in practice and to help teachers keep track of their coverage and the children's attainment, the Subject Leader will carry out book scrutinies, pupil interviews and look at coverage on plans.

The subject leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice. We maintain a 'self evaluation' of our RE work in readiness for Inspection.

WITHDRAWAL

We note the rights of Parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff. Please refer to the Head teacher any questions from parents about withdrawals. There are no pupils withdrawn at present. We have 5 families of Jehovah's Witness in school at present and regular contact is kept with their parents.

The RE subject leaders file is kept in the same format as the files for all other curriculum areas.

The detailed scheme of work is also kept by the subject leader.