



RE POLICY

Purpose

Legislation relating to the provision of Religious Education was consolidated by the Education Act 1996. It reaffirmed that RE is part of the Basic Curriculum and "should be taught to all pupils in full-time education" and "shall reflect that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain".

Aims for R.E

Following the Cambridgeshire scheme of work, we aim to enable pupils to develop positive attitudes to their learning and to the beliefs and values of others through the development of four attitudes which are essential for good learning in religious education:

- Self-awareness
- Respect for all
- Open-mindedness
- Appreciation and wonder

Teaching and Learning

We believe children learn best when:

- They are provided with opportunities to work independently or collaboratively
- They are encouraged to ask as well as answer questions
- They visit places of interest when applicable
- They have access to secondary sources such as books and photographs
- Visitors talk about personal experiences of religious beliefs when applicable
- They listen to and interact with religious stories
- They are shown, or use independently, resources from the internet and video clips
- They are able to use non-fiction books for research

We recognise the fact that we have a wide range of children within our classes and so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by offering a variety of differentiated activities for pupils, including:

- Providing children with both taught religious education sessions and the opportunity to explore through role play and more independent activities is, we believe, integral to the teaching of RE
- Encouraging pupils to engage in class discussions, including giving them the opportunity to ask and answer questions
- Initiating RE activities which give pupils the opportunity to independently reflect upon previous discussions and learning
- Offering opportunities for the children to carry out independent learning and to ask questions linking to specific religions and RE topics

- Ensuring that expectations of work within RE sessions are suitably high and this is explicitly taught to all pupils
- Specifying success criteria that underpin the required learning to help children when completing activities to a good standard

Teaching and Learning within the EYFS

RE, although not taught explicitly within the Early Years setting, is evident in many of the different EYFS topics. Through a combination of exploratory play and class discussions, children start to develop their understanding of others' individual beliefs. Teachers and teaching assistants will provide opportunity for class discussions and will encourage conversations that require children to develop their understanding and empathetic skills.

Assessment and recording

The assessment of pupil progress within RE is ongoing by the class teacher and is part of formative assessment. Children are given opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of RE throughout the year.

Collective Worship and Reflection

All children at Middlefield are given regular opportunities to participate in acts of collective reflection. Some of these assemblies are of a religious nature. Regularly, guest speakers, including members of a local Christian education programme (GnR8) lead assemblies based on stories from Christianity.