



Linthorpe Community Primary School

*Everyone is equal, everyone is different, everyone is welcome and everyone achieves their best.*

## Religious Education Policy

	Term	Year
Last Review Date/Policy Adopted	Spring	2023
Next Review Date	Spring	2024
Lead	Mrs Mitchell	

This school is an academy within The Legacy Learning Trust.



## **Aims and objectives**

Our RE Curriculum aims to engage children in a systematic enquiry into questions which religions and worldviews express. Children build up a secure understanding of their own worldviews and those of others through spiritual, creative and knowledge based units that explore Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism and Hinduism. The curriculum is built around the key concepts of believing, living and expressing and builds on the skills and knowledge children develop across EYFS.

Key religious stories, beliefs and practices have been chosen to enable children develop their understanding of their own beliefs and identities, as well of those of other both in the local community and wider world.

Our curriculum is based on the Middlesbrough Agreed Syllabus for RE 2020-25 but via an enriched National Curriculum+ offer and '50 things', we ensure that children have as many opportunities to make meaningful links to real life contexts and experiences.

## **Organisation of Learning**

Learning is based on memory cycles, with children visiting themes, religions and ideas as they move through school, deepening and reinforcing knowledge and skills. To facilitate this, lessons being with recap quizzes and children make use of knowledge organisers and secure their knowledge through low stakes testing. New learning is often delivered using high quality video clips from the BBC, which all come recommended by NATRE. A key focus of many lessons is for children to see how the beliefs of practices of different faiths in relation to their own beliefs and how they live their own lives. Our RE curriculum gives ideal opportunities for rich, multi-sensory learning such as drama, handling artefacts and creative activities. Pupils' language is developed in every lesson through the explicit teaching of new vocabulary and our *language for discussion progression*.

## **Impact**

Children's progress is assessed against the end of key stage outcomes from the Agreed Syllabus for Middlesbrough 2020-25. (pages 32, 46 and 97)

## **Inclusion**

RE forms part of the school's curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

Important festivals are celebrated from different religions within the school and wider community, particularly the festivals of Christianity and Islam as these are the two major religions represented within the school community.

## **Visits**

Whenever possible, educational visits are undertaken to enable children to experience RE in its wider setting. These are carried out in line with our policy for Educational Visits. We also welcome visitors who will share their knowledge and beliefs, both in person and using ICT, such as ZOOM.

## **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development**

SMSC forms an integral part of our RE curriculum:

**Spiritual** - Pupils reflect on their own beliefs and those of others. We discuss the big questions which religions address. Our children are encouraged to see the links between their beliefs and the beliefs of others.

**Moral** – Pupils learn how religions help their followers make choices about how to live a good life. For example, pupils learn how Jewish people follow the Ten Commandments, how the beatitudes help some Christians make decisions in their everyday lives and how the zakat inspires Muslims to make positive changes in the world.

**Social** – Pupils learn about the diversity of religions and worldviews, which helps them have empathy with others and to reflect, and be proud of, their own identities. We teach children about the language of discussion and debate so that that can communicate their views to others respectfully.

**Cultural**- Our curriculum stimulates pupils' curiosity about, and tolerance of, the variety of religions and worldviews in the world. They learn about the most important stories and beliefs of the faiths that have shaped the world they live in and reflect on the meaning these may have for their own lives.

## **Right to Withdrawal**

RE is provided for all pupils, and is inclusive and broad minded. Parents do have the right to withdraw pupils from RE, on the grounds that they wish to provide their own religious education. If they wish to do this, they must make an appointment with the head teacher / RE subject leader (see guidance from NATRE in curriculum/RE). The school does not support selective withdrawal from RE.