



Religious Studies *at* **Northowram** Primary School

Inspiring Success Beyond Expectation



Intent

At Northowram Primary School our RE curriculum is designed to engage and enthuse learners. We believe that it is an essential area of study which ensures that children are well prepared for life in a world where there are a multitude of viewpoints and beliefs. We enable the children to make their own informed decisions and to have the confidence to voice their views. It is a subject for all pupils, whatever their own family background, personal beliefs and practices. We aim to develop pupils' understanding of world faiths and other beliefs by exploring their commonality and diversity. Our RE curriculum is also about 'belonging'. It aims to nurture pupils' awareness of diversity as well as sensitivity to the questions and challenges that different views and cultures can present. Our children enjoy RE and develop robust responses to misunderstandings, stereotyping and division. We offer the children a place where difficult or 'risky' questions can be tackled within a safe but challenging context. The children discuss challenging questions about meaning and purpose in life, beliefs about God, ultimate reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. We aim to provide our children with religious literacy where they will develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and Judaism; other religious traditions and world views and explore their responses to life's challenges. This gives pupils the knowledge and skills to flourish both within their own community and as members of a diverse and global society.

Implementation

Our curriculum follows *Believing and Belonging: The Local Agreed Syllabus for RE in Calderdale, Kirklees and Leeds, 2019*. It is planned and sequenced to develop deep, lasting learning and builds upon prior knowledge, which our children can use today, tomorrow and beyond their school years.

During each Key Stage, pupils are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about Christianity and Islam throughout KS1, with the introduction of Sikhism and Judaism in KS2. The children engage in lessons where prior knowledge is recapped through retrieval quizzes, vocab is taught, key knowledge goals are explained and discussed and children apply their new knowledge to a range of tasks. RE is taught for 1 hour each week and children gain a deeper understanding of the religion studied through the use of resources, books and artefacts. The following skills are used, in order to strengthen the skills and deepen the understanding and knowledge taught: investigating, reflecting, recalling and retelling, exploring, discussing and empathising. We provide an inclusive curriculum where scaffolds are used throughout the lesson to ensure that the needs of all children are met and all are pupils can succeed in RE. Children can discuss and compare the lives of people they have studied from a variety of different religions.

Impact

Our RE curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. The children make progress by knowing more, remembering more and being able to do more. Our children will develop a wide range of skills which can help them beyond school and motivate and inspire them to be well rounded citizens in an ever-changing and challenging world. We measure the impact of our RE deliver and curriculum through monitoring work, listening to children attitudes about RE through pupil voice interviews and by taking learning walks and whole school book-looks. Through weekly recap quizzes and end of unit quizzes our children are able to evidence the knowledge-based learning goals and a progression in skills throughout school.