



Newdigate (Endowed) C.E. Infant School Policy for Religious Education

Updated February 2017

National Curriculum Requirements for Key Stage 1

In line with legal requirements, Voluntary Aided Church of England Schools must ensure that they provide RE in accordance with the teachings of the Anglican Church. In accordance with this we follow the Guildford Diocesan Guidelines for RE and the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools.

The National Curriculum requires that Religious Education has equal standing in relation to the core and foundation subjects within a school's curriculum.

In KS1 pupils should study 72 hours across the key stage (36 hours per year), or approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ hour per week (5% of the teaching time.)

RE can be delivered weekly, or in a block themed approach or cross curricular.

We are required to introduce the study of Christianity and aspects of Judaism and Islam.

Philosophy/Aims

Children come to school with a natural curiosity about their world and existence.

Our aim is to develop an understanding of the meaning of faith and its social, moral and personal significance by:

- Nurturing the children from families of Christian faiths
- Challenging the children from families of no faith
- Informing the children from families of other faiths

Ethos

As a Church of England Aided school, we promote a Christian foundation and ethos which underpins and runs through all aspects of school life.

Our code of behaviour is based on Christian values and ethics and it is expected that every adult and child will try to be kind, considerate, honest and truthful, helpful and sympathetic to the feelings of others. The school has 6 Christian values - 'love', 'peace', 'thankfulness', 'trust', 'forgiveness' and 'hope'.

This Christian ethos provides the framework for education, including religious education, in the school and underlies the whole curriculum.

Delivery

The Early Years Foundation Stage

In accordance with the Development Matters in the EYFS children are taught to know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions. This is delivered in a variety of methods and cross curricular, using the Guildford Diocesan guidelines. This includes the experiences, festivals and stories of other faiths.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 we follow the Diocese of Guildford Guidelines for Religious Education.

The Guidelines provide Units on:

- Christianity (not less than 80% of RE time is spent on Christianity)
- Judaism and Islam (not more than 20% of RE time is spent on other faiths).
- Teaching can be cross curricular.

Planning

Long term planning for RE is undertaken in the context of the school's overall curriculum plan which reflects the needs of all the children. The staff agree which parts of the programme of study are drawn together to make coherent, manageable teaching units. We have agreed a two yearly long term plan for KS1 and a yearly plan for the EYFS. This includes the compulsory Diocese units, Pause Days and Optional Study Units.

Medium term planning identifies the area of a specific topic that will be focused upon each week.

Short term planning is the responsibility of individual teachers who build on the medium term plan by taking account of the needs of the children and identifying ways in which ideas might be taught to the children. The lessons reflect the principles of **enquiry-based learning**.

Guidelines

Progression

Progression will be ensured by using the Unit Planning information and looking at assessments. Each class has an RE learning journey book which records the children's comments and samples of work, which illustrates the children's learning journey through each unit.

Differentiation

A range of methods are used - this could be targeted by outcome, differentiation through setting different tasks, questioning or the use of different resources.

Assessment Recording and Reporting

There are ongoing assessments made by the teachers. Teachers use the assessment sheet, provided at the end of the unit to assess the children in both the EYFS and KS1. In the EYFS the children's progress is also assessed and monitored throughout the year in a number of areas, primarily 'People and Communities', but also 'Making Relationships' and 'Self-confidence and Self-awareness'.

Resources

Resources are kept in the staffroom. Labelled boxes with appropriate artefacts, DVDs and books are available.

Equal Opportunities

This relates to the Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Policies. All pupil groups will be provided for according to needs identified. We ensure equal access to the RE curriculum for all regardless of ability, sex, race or disability.

In accordance with the Education Act of 1944 and 1988, parents have a right to withdraw pupils from RE lessons. However, we encourage them, where possible, not to do this as we promote inclusion.

Health and Safety Issues

Children should be taught to use materials and artefacts in accordance with health and safety requirements. Equipment should be stored and handled correctly and with respect.

Computing

There are a variety of Internet sites, CDs and programmes to support the teaching of RE. The children are given the opportunity to plan, design and record work using a variety of programmes on the computer.

RE Leader Role

The Leader is responsible for drawing up the elements of the policy and guidelines. This is discussed and agreed with the staff and Governors. The Leader will plan time to evaluate and monitor the teaching of RE in each year group.

Quality Assurance

The policy and practice will be evaluated by Mrs Gayle Priestley, RE Leader.