

Abbey Church of England Infant and Nursery School

Love, Laugh, Learn – Walking with Jesus to life in all its fullness, John 10:10



Religious Education Policy

Introduction

At Abbey Church of England Infant and Nursery School we want all of our children to Love, Laugh and Learn. Our aim is for every child to achieve their full potential in a safe, caring and engaging environment.

This policy explains the importance of R.E. at Abbey C of E Infant and Nursery School. Abbey has strong links with St. Marys church and as a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school, we promote a Christian foundation and ethos which underpins and runs through all aspects of school life.

Christian values are embedded within the daily life of our school. The values we focus on are Love, Hope, Respect, Thankfulness, Perseverance and Courage, Compassion and Friendship. These values are understood by all stakeholders and pupils. They are embedded throughout school life.

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

Aims

R.E. offers pupils the opportunity to:

- ❖ develop knowledge, understanding and awareness of Christianity, as the predominant religion of Great Britain, and other principal religions represented in our country.
- ❖ develop respect and understanding for those holding different beliefs,
- ❖ enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- ❖ reflect upon and respond to their own beliefs and experiences in light of their learning about religion.

Delivery

The Foundation Stage

We follow the requirements of the new EYFS curriculum for the Foundation Years and R.E is particularly highlighted through Understanding of the World and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. The children take part in daily worship. We use 'Understanding Christianity' to enrich the learning of units focusing on Incarnation, Salvation and Creation. We also teach the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus which takes a 'worldviews' approach to Religious Education.

Key Stage 1

At Key Stage 1 we follow the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus (September 2024) for Religious Education. In addition we use the 'Understanding Christianity' programme to enrich the curriculum and to focus on the Creation, Salvation and Incarnation. In line with the legal requirements, teachers devote the majority of time to content relating to Christianity.

The Agreed Syllabus provides a 'worldviews' approach to the teaching of Religious Education:

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

We endorse the aims of The National Curriculum to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and deliver R.E. to all pupils. R.E. is part of the basic curriculum, having equal standing with the core and foundation subjects. R.E. must be provided for all registered pupils.

Planning

R.E. in KS1 is taught weekly. Schemes of work ensure that there is progression and continuity of content. Teachers work with the whole class, small groups and use differentiation to help the children learn. As well as assisting children to investigate and reflect on some of the fundamental questions they may have. It helps to develop attitudes such as sensitivity, empathy, reflection and response. Weekly lessons link well with English, Maths, History, Geography, PSE, Music and Art. R.E. encourages tolerance of different opinions and ways of living, participation and rights to different views. It therefore supports the PSHE and Behaviour. Appendix 1 shows the Long Term Plan that covers content taught for each half term from Nursery to Year 2.

Equal Opportunities

R.E. offers rich opportunities for multicultural work, with Study Units devoted to the beliefs and family lifestyles of members of the different faiths around the world; especially within our school community. All units of study are adapted, where necessary, to meet the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs. 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.

Parents have a right to withdraw pupils from RE lessons. However, we encourage them, where possible, not to do this as we promote inclusion.

Teachers are mindful of opportunities for Spiritual Development, either from planned lessons or those that spontaneously arise through discussion and play.

Cross curricular opportunities

The Internet is a rich source of additional material and information, with specific R.E. web sites.

Literacy skills are important in speaking, listening, reflecting and debating issues in R.E.
The children often have to use different genres of writing in these lessons e.g. writing prayers, reflecting on feelings.
Geography has strong links as it is important to illustrate how world –wide faiths are.
The curriculum is often introduced and taught through story, drama, debate, art and even dance.

Resources

A range of resources are available in school to support work in the Early Years and KS1. There are boxes of artefacts and materials for each of the major faiths studied and materials to supplement cross curricular work

Planning and Assessment

The Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity is used for Long Term, Medium Term and Short Term planning.

Pupils' work is kept as a record, and serves as an indication of progress through time. We use the same book for R.E. throughout the school to demonstrate progress, content, breadth and balance.
Assessment is made through the use of expected, emerging and exceeding standards.

Community Links

Opportunities to enhance the R.E. curriculum by using resources in the local community are actively encouraged, e.g. visiting local places of worship, participating in different festivals, inviting visitors into school to talk about their cultures and beliefs and looking at different artefacts and resources.

Monitoring and Evaluation of RE

The R.E. co-ordinator will carry out detailed monitoring and evaluation of the subject.
As part of this process the co-ordinator looks at all aspects of how R.E. is delivered in school. Regular book trawls and observations are used to monitor progress, breadth and quality of teaching.

Health and Safety

Some lessons involve food preparation, and the relevant hygiene and safety rules should be adhered to during these lessons. Care should always be taken when pupils are handling religious artefacts; they are not toys and therefore not subject to the same safety standards.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in the light of any changes to The Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus for R.E. and every two years by the R.E. Co-ordinator, staff, headteacher and Governing Body.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Appendix 1



Abbey CofE Infant and Nursery School - RE Long Term Plan

Love, Laugh, Learn – Walking with Jesus to life in all its fullness John 10,10

The core concepts fit into a spiral curriculum, whereby concepts are revisited and explored in more depth as pupils move through the school. These are explored through key questions, however, and so are not applied exclusively – links and connections will be made between concepts during units.

YEAR	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Nursery	Which people are special and why? (F2-Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus)		What times are special and why? (F4-Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus)		Being Special: Where do we belong? (F5-Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus)	
Reception	F1 How can people show they belong together?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Incarnation</u> Why do Christians perform Nativity plays?	F2 Who are the people in sacred (special) stories and why might they still be important today?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Salvation</u> Why do Christians put a cross in their Easter garden?	F3 How do people know how to treat each other?	Understanding Christianity- <u>God/Creation</u> Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?
Year 1	K1.1 How might your worldview be seen in the choices you make?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Incarnation</u> Why does Christmas matter to Christians?	K1.2 Where do people turn for guidance in life?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Creation</u> Who made the world?	Layover Unit Sikhi	K1.3 How do people with similar worldviews share and celebrate their beliefs?
Year 2	Layover unit (Islam)	Understanding Christianity- <u>Incarnation</u> Why does Christmas matter to Christians? Digging deeper	K1.5 What is most important for different people? Combine with Understanding Christianity unit what do Christians believe God is like?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Salvation</u> Why does Easter matter to Christians?	Understanding Christianity- <u>Gospel</u> What is the good news Jesus brings?	K1.6 Why has the Coventry Blitz shaped Christian worldviews locally and globally?

Religious Education – Progression (end of year expectations)



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	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
CREATION AND FALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Children will explore the world around them. - Christians believe that God loves everyone 	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The word God is a name. -Christians believe God is Creator of the universe. -Christians believe God made our wonderful world and so we should look after it. <p>Children will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ways in which the world is a wonderful place. -ways in which people can spoil the world. -ways in which people can look after the world. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -God created the universe. -The Earth and everything in it are important to God. -God has a unique relationship with human beings as their Creator and Sustainer. -Humans should care for the world because it belongs to God. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -God created the universe. -The Earth and everything in it are important to God. -God has a unique relationship with human beings as their Creator and Sustainer. -Humans should care for the world because it belongs to God.
INCARNATION	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christmas is a special time of year for Christians. 	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe God came to Earth in human form as Jesus. -Christians believe Jesus came to show that all people are precious and special to God. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem. -The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example to the poor, in Luke). -Christians celebrate Jesus' birth, and Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus' coming. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem. -The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example to the poor, in Luke). -Christians celebrate Jesus' birth, and Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus' coming. -Incarnation is part of the 'Big Story' of the Bible -That the birth of Jesus links with incarnation – Jesus is 'God on Earth'.
GOSPEL	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Jesus is a special friend to Christians. -Christians have a special book called the Bible. 	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe that Jesus teaches about keeping promises and they can say why keeping promises is a good thing. - Christians believe that Jesus teaches about saying 'thank you' and they can say why saying 'thank you' is a good thing. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe Jesus challenges everyone about how to live – he sets the example for loving God and your neighbour, putting others first. . -Christians try to put his teaching and example into practice in lots of ways. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians believe Jesus challenges everyone about how to live – he sets the example for loving God and your neighbour, putting others first. -Christians believe Jesus challenges people who pretend to be good (hypocrisy) and shows love and forgiveness to unlikely people. -Christians believe Jesus' life shows what it means to love God (his Father) and love your neighbour. -Christians try to be like Jesus – they want to know him better and better. -Christians try to put his teaching and example into practice in lots of ways,

				from church worship to social justice.
SALVATION	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Jesus is special to Christians and they enjoy listening to stories about him. -Easter is a special Christian celebration. 	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians remember Jesus' last week at Easter. -Jesus' name means 'He saves'. -Christians believe Jesus came to show God's love. -Christians try to show love to others. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Easter is very important in the 'big story' of the Bible. Jesus showed that he was willing to forgive all people, even for putting him on the cross. -Christians believe Jesus builds a bridge between God and humans. -Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead, giving people hope of a new life. 	<p>Pupils will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Easter is very important in the 'big story' of the Bible. Jesus showed that he was willing to forgive all people, even for putting him on the cross. -Christians believe Jesus builds a bridge between God and humans. -Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead, giving people hope of a new life. -God, Incarnation, Gospel and Salvation are part of the 'big story' of the Bible. -The stories of Holy week and Easter make a link with the idea of Salvation.
Religions and world views	<p>Children will know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Different people have different religious beliefs -That people from different religions have different special times. -Children are welcomed into Christianity through baptism. - Children from other faiths are welcomed in different ways. 	<p>-Children will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -some religious stories -some religious words, e.g. God -some sacred texts e.g. Bible, Qur'an -that Jesus taught about keeping promises -that Jesus taught Christians to say thank you -what makes a place special. -that some religious people have places which have special meaning for them. -know some of the things that are special and valued in a place of worship. -know some significant features of sacred places. -and recognise a place of worship. 	<p>Children will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christians have symbols to show their belonging. -People of different religions have different symbols to show their belonging. -Christians are baptised to symbolise a welcoming into the Christian community. -Christians get married to show that they belong to each other. -There are special places where some people go to worship. -Places of worship contain objects and symbols to show that people believe. -People perform actions in places of worship to show that they believe. -That Hindus follow the religion of Hinduism -That Hindus believe in a supreme God whose qualities are represented through many deities -That the main Hindu texts are the Vedas -That Hindus celebrate many holy days, but the festival of Lights, Diwali is the best known. 	<p>Children will know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -some simple ideas about Muslim beliefs about God, making links with some of the 99 Names of Allah. -that some objects used by Muslims have religious significance. -that the Islamic holy book is the Qur'an -that Muslims mark Ramadan and celebrate Eid-ul-fitr as important religious events -that sacred texts contain stories which are special to many people and should be treated with respect. -some stories from the Christian Bible and stories from Islam.

