



Bishopton Primary School

Religious Education (RE)

INTENT

Learning about world religions is an important part of children's education in today's increasingly multicultural society, as it helps them develop an understanding and tolerance of other people's faiths.

RE at Bishopton explores big questions about life, to find out what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can make sense of religion. As Stratford-Upon-Avon is a predominately Christian area, we believe that it is critical for students to broaden their knowledge and understanding of world religions in order to grow as members of our diverse global community. We aim to engage, inspire and encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and reflect on their own beliefs and values while agreeing or disagreeing with others respectfully.

IMPLIMENTATION

RE at Bishopton is planned in line with the Coventry and Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus. The syllabus is structured around the three aims; Believing, Expressing and Living. A 'big questions' is used at the beginning on a unit and explored through smaller steps. Units of work are presented in a 'systematic' and 'thematic' format, either focusing on a single religion or examining a specific theme across multiple religions or world views. Discrete lessons, building on children's prior learning, are spread out over the course of the year, intermixed with assemblies, and in-class conversations commemorating various religious festivals and significant days.

Where possible, teachers provide opportunities for creative, cross-curricular development using debate and the arts.

The agreed syllabus requires that all pupils learn from Christianity in each key stage. In addition, pupils will learn from the principal religions represented in the UK, in line with the law. These are Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Judaism. Furthermore, children from families where non-religious worldviews are held are represented in almost all of our classrooms. These worldviews, including for example Humanism, will also be the focus for study where appropriate.

IMPACT

The impact of the RE curriculum at Bishopton aims to:

1. Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- describe, explain and analyse beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities and amongst individuals
- identify, investigate and respond to questions posed, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and worldviews
- appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

2. Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities
- express, with increasing discernment, their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value, including ethical issues
- appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion.

3. Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively
- enquire into what enables different individuals and communities to live together respectfully for the well-being of all
- articulate beliefs, values and commitments clearly in order to explain why they may be important in their own and other people's lives.