



Seamer and Irton CP School

Religious Education Policy



Policy name	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY
Frequency of review	Biennial
Governor lead	Helen Mallory
Lead member of staff	Claire Ottaway/Fiona Donald
Reviewed on	November 2023
Reviewed by	Governing Board
Next review	November 2024

Statement of Intent

Through Religious Education, children will develop a deeper understanding of world religions, preparing them well for life in modern Britain, where British values are upheld and where people live alongside others from different faiths and cultures with respect and tolerance.

The school has no affiliation with any religion but follows the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and has strong links with the local Church, St. Martin's. Our curriculum aims to help children develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and the other principal religions in our society.

Context

- Seamer & Irton CP School delivers Religious Education according to the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and follow the planning units from RE Today.
- We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We welcome the diversity and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child.
- We are glad to have the active support of members of our local community to support our teaching of Religious Education.
- We recognise the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which Religious Education curriculum plays in some of these areas.

Legal Requirements

Religious Education at Seamer and Irton Primary School will be provided in line with the legal requirements. These are:

- the basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll;
- the content of Religious Education shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;

- the Religious Education which is provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for North Yorkshire.

Aims

Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, the aims in Religious Education at Seamer and Irton Primary school are for pupils to:

- acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom;
- develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally;
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom;
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
 - developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them;
 - responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience;
 - reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study;
- develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

Time Allocation.

The Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education recommends 36 hours per year for EYFS and KS1, and 45 hours per year for KS2.

Religious Education curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not Religious Education.

Inclusion

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special educational needs applies to Religious Education. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. RE activities are differentiated to meet the needs of each pupil.

Equality

Teachers will ensure that all pupils have fair access to the RE curriculum, regardless of gender, race, or ability, in accordance with the school's Equalities Scheme.

Assessment and Reporting

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in Religious Education to parents, as required by law. The North Yorkshire syllabus provides descriptions of progress and attainment, which the school has agreed to use as a basis for reporting.

Withdrawal

Our school curriculum for religious education meets the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act (ERA) which stipulates that religious education is compulsory for all children, including those in the reception class who are less than five years old. The ERA allows parents to withdraw their child from religious education classes if they so wish, although this should only be done once the parents have given written notice to the school.