

St Leonard's R.E Curriculum Statement



Article 14

Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights of parents to give their children guidance about this right

Article 30

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

Article 28

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free. Secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's human dignity. Wealthy countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

All registered pupils in maintained schools, (including those in reception) up to the age of 19 years, are entitled to receive Religious Education. The Religious Education is required to be taught in accordance with an Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education that is determined locally.

INTENT

The aim of Religious Education is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain; to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in such a way as to reflect the overall aims, values, and philosophy of the school. Religious Education plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas, particularly PSHE and RRSA in promoting the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of our children.

IMPLEMENTATION

It has been agreed that having taken into account the requirements and guidelines presented in the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus, the following religions have been selected for study:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism
- Sikhism

There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds and beliefs and values of the children and the staff. We value the religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community. We acknowledge that each religion studied can contribute to the education of all our pupils. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for both staff and children.

IMPACT

The children enjoy learning about other religions and why people choose, or choose not to follow a religion. Through their R.E. learning, the children are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. R.E. acts as a hub, therefore, between social aspects of learning, science and geography. Through R.E. our children are developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life, which they are then able to communicate to the wider community. R.E. offers our children the means by which to understand how other people choose to live and to understand why they choose to live in that way. As such, R.E. is invaluable in an ever changing world.

At St Leonard's we believe that Religious Education provokes challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. We aim to help our children develop respect and sensitivity for all people and to understand more about the importance of religion in today's world. RE develops children's knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions. It is more than just developing children's knowledge and understanding, it seeks to develop children's skills in investigation, enquiry, communication, interpretation, analysis and evaluation.

The aim of Religious Education is to help prepare and equip all pupils for life in today's increasingly diverse and plural Britain through teaching the children to become religiously literate.

In the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus these qualities are identified in four broad categories. Someone who is religiously educated would be:

- 1) Curious and inquisitive about life; not afraid to ask the big questions; aware of philosophical and ethical issues (*Issues/Questions*)
- 2) Well informed about religious and non-religious responses to ultimate questions; knowledgeable about faiths, practices and philosophies (*Religion/Content*)
- 3) Aware of, and able to demonstrate an understanding of the impact of belief on actions; able to interpret the ways in which beliefs, spiritual insights and values are expressed by individuals or groups (*Meaning/Exploration*)
- 4) Able to demonstrate respect for the faiths and philosophies of others; confident in expressing their own views while reflecting on the beliefs, spiritual insights and values of others (*Lifestance/Reflection*)

Learning and undertaking activities in religious education contribute to achievement of the curriculum aims for all young people to become:

- **successful learners** who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- **confident individuals** who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- **responsible citizens** who make a positive contribution to society



Being a Silver Rights Respecting School supports our RE curriculum.