



# RE and Collective Worship

## INTRODUCTION

In Religious Education we want your child to learn about the values and ways of the 6 major Religions of the world namely Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Judaism.

To give them real experiences, we go out on visits to see the religious buildings and the faith leaders talk to the students about the important values and beliefs of their faith.

Opportunities for collective worship enable our pupils to apply some principles of their learning in Religious Education. Time is taken during morning registration time, and often in plenaries to share experiences and achievements and celebrate in others' achievements and experiences. Our school assembly is once a week, on Friday afternoons. These whole school events promote our pupils understanding and awareness of the community they are in, the celebrating atmosphere promotes positive views of others and recognises individual and class achievements.

Our aim through this aspect of the curriculum is to give your child an understanding about the world in which they live.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Through Religious Education pupils at Bardwell School are given the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions practised in Great Britain. Pupils learn to understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions and their influences on individuals, societies, communities and cultures.

Religious Education encourages pupils to develop a sense of belonging and identity and plays an important role in preparing our pupils for adult life. Religious Education provides an opportunity to celebrate diversity and challenge stereotypes. As a school we aim to offer a welcoming and inclusive environment for all our pupils, staff and visitors.

## AIMS

At Bardwell School the following aims underpin our approach to teaching and learning in Religious Education:

- To acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions selected for study.
- To develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures
- To develop the ability to make reasoned judgements about religious and moral issues.
- To be able to distinguish between right and wrong.
- To develop a positive attitude towards other people respecting their right to hold different beliefs from their own.
- To develop a sense of belonging and develop appropriate skills as citizens.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Planning for Religious Education is based on the two areas of learning and attainment; **Learning about Religions** and **Learning from Religions**

### **Learning about Religions**

Learning about religion includes enquiry into and investigation of the nature of religion, its key beliefs and teachings, practices, their impacts on the lives of believers and communities and the varying ways in which these are expressed. It also includes the skills of interpretation, analysis and explanation.

Pupils learn to communicate their knowledge and understanding using specialist vocabulary. Identifying and developing an understanding of ultimate questions and ethical issues is also included in this area.

### **Learning from Religions**

Learning from religion is concerned with developing pupils' reflection on and response to their own and others experiences in their learning about religion. It gives an opportunity to develop and extend communication skills. It develops pupils' skills of application, interpretation and evaluation of what they learn about religion, particularly in relation to questions of identity and belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, values and commitments.

As pupils at Bardwell School have wide ranging needs, staff ensure when planning lessons that all pupils are included and that their needs are met through a range of highly differentiated approaches and activities.

Visits to places of worship, involvement in celebrating religious festivals, visitors from faith communities and theme days help to make Religious Education more relevant and interesting to our pupils. Visual representations and a hands-on approach enable our pupils to become more actively involved.

DVDs and ICT resources are widely used both in presentation and for illustration purposes, we also have a range of religion specific resources to support our pupils learning and understanding.

Through Religious Education our pupils have the opportunity to develop many key skills such as thinking, researching, evaluating, reflecting and empathising.

Religious Education is a subject in its own right but can be clearly linked to other curriculum areas, in particular PSHE and Citizenship as well as language and literacy, art, drama, music and ICT.

### **SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.**

We recognise that Religious Education contributes fully to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. Teachers consider this when planning their lessons, especially in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 where learning in RE has strong links with learning within PSHE lessons.

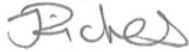
## **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with the law we provide religious education for all pupils registered at the school.

## **WITHDRAWAL**

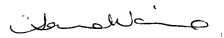
Parents have the right to withdraw their child from part or the whole of the RE curriculum and those who may wish to do so are requested to contact the Headteacher.

Reviewed by:



Date: 9 February 2016

Approved by Governors:



Date: 9 February 2016