



Religious Education

Ethos

Our aim is to create a rich learning environment, enabling every pupil to fulfil his or her potential. We are committed to the highest possible educational standards, with a matching concern for the personal growth and development of each pupil.

Intent

The school motto is, 'Learning and Achieving Together'. We passionately believe that all children should be provided with rich opportunities to develop their curiosity and understanding in religion. This ensures that pupils are, not only being prepared for life in modern, multicultural Britain, but also ensures they are prepared for continuing studies in RE in the next stage of their education. Our aim is not to teach religion, but to educate our pupils about religion (including Humanism). Our intent is to achieve this by giving pupils access to a wide variety of high quality lessons (following the agreed Local Syllabus) so that they can develop their understanding through being exposed to a number of religious aspects, religions and beliefs. British Values will also be explored in these sessions. We will provide opportunities to enable children to develop a good understanding and knowledge, mainly of Christianity, but also of other world religions such as Hinduism, Judaism and Islam.

Implementation

The RE curriculum at Richmond is designed to maximise the potential for all learners to succeed in our aims. We have therefore adopted a skills progression based curriculum, where teachers use careful links from prior learning and knowledge to provide opportunities to enable children to develop a good understanding and knowledge, mainly of religions. Some aspects of PSHE may naturally interlink within our RE scheme of work. Further to this we aim to develop further pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural values as an integral part of the curriculum.

EYFS

Planned teaching experiences will support children's learning and development needs identified through holistic assessment. Good Early Years teaching stems from children's own experience and so many practitioners will find ways to draw on the wealth of religious or spiritual experiences that families many bring with them.

Key Stage One

During the key stage, pupils are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about Christians, Muslims and Jewish people. Pupils may also encounter other religions and worldviews in thematic units, where appropriate. Pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews, recognising their local, national and global contexts. They use basic subject specific vocabulary. They raise questions and begin to express their own views in response to the material they learn about and in response to questions about their ideas.

Key Stage Two

Key Stage Two the faiths studied are those followed by Christians, Muslims, Hindus and Jewish people, as well as Humanists. This provides opportunities to recognise the impact of religion and belief locally, nationally and globally. Pupils make connections between differing aspects of religion and consider the different forms of religious expression. They consider the beliefs, teachings, practices and ways of life central to religion. They learn about sacred texts and other sources and consider their meanings. They begin to recognise diversity in religion, learning about similarities and differences both within and between religions and beliefs and the importance of dialogue between them.

Impact

Our Syllabus provides stimulating opportunities for pupils to learn about and reflect on what they learn about in RE. It also fosters an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences, provides engaging lessons that contribute to the development of pupils' sense of understanding and respect for the views and beliefs of others. Children gain knowledge and understanding of Christianity as a major religion, understand its cultural heritage and also the other major world religions and value systems found in Great Britain. Alongside this they develop an appreciation of the religious and cultural differences in Britain today. Exposing children to high-quality and diverse lessons ensures all children have respect for other people's views and beliefs and to celebrate the diversity in our society.