



Religious Education Policy

Barnet is one of the most religiously diverse boroughs in England. As a school in Barnet we aim to celebrate this diversity and offer a welcoming and inclusive environment for all our pupils, Through the teaching and learning of Religious Education, our pupils will develop a positive attitude to living in a religiously diverse society.

At Summerside Primary Academy we follow the guidelines set out in the Barnet Agreed syllabus for Religious Education 2007. The syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principle religions - Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism and Sikhism. We prepare and teach lessons following the Barnet Guidance. The long term plan in Appendix 1.

AIMS

To allow pupils to:

- develop and extend knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world faiths, and of ethical beliefs
- develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities and societies
- enhance and reflect on their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- grow in confidence in their own faith and respect those with a faith different from their own
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religion and moral issues

RE curriculum

The RE curriculum is covered through a range of topics detailed in the RE long term plan.

In Foundation stage the topics covered are Myself, Family and Belonging. As part of the Personal, Social and Emotional development all pupils in FS learn to develop respect for their own culture and beliefs and those of other people. They also learn to develop an awareness of their own needs, views and feelings, and to be sensitive to the needs, views and feelings of others. In FS children have the opportunity to increase their knowledge and understanding of the world through the celebration of a range of religious festivals, in particular those festivals which are celebrated by families within each year group.

In Key Stage 1 the topics covered are Special places, Special people, Special times, Symbols, Beliefs and Stories and Special Books.

In Key Stage 2 topics covered are Inspirational people, Sacred texts, Religion and Individual, Religion family and community, Worship, Beliefs and Questions, Beliefs in Action, Pilgrimages and special places and the Journey of life and death.

The teaching approaches we use are varied and include the use of stories, artefacts, videos, role play, active learning and discussions. Children are encouraged to share their experiences, reflect on their own beliefs and to develop a knowledge of and respect for different people's faiths feelings and values.

Visits to local places of worship and visitors in school are encouraged. Worship never takes places during visits or in RE lessons in school.

Teaching time

Under the Education Act 1996, schools must provide Religious Education for all registered pupils. It is recommended in the Barnet Agreed syllabus that RE is taught for one lesson per week.

Inclusion

At Summerside each child is valued, respected and challenged regardless of ability, race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability. Resources, support and tasks will be differentiated to ensure all children including children with special educational needs and those who are new to English can develop their knowledge and understanding. Children will also be encouraged to continue their exploration and study of any aspect of a religion or culture within the RE curriculum.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons. If children are to be withdrawn parents must first meet with the headteacher to discuss their reasons and then write a letter to confirm this. The RE coordinator will advise class teachers of children who have been withdrawn from RE lessons.

Assessment

Pupils are assessed in each of the topics. The attainment targets that are used are Learning about religion and learning from religion.

In RE children are assessed in a variety of ways including written individual or group work, photographs or using ICT. Attainment and progress is reported to parents in the end of year reports.

Resources

Artefacts and resources from all religions are used to enhance practical experience and understanding. RE resources and artefacts are stored in the resources room. The boxes are organised by religion. RE Today publications are stored in the PPA room and digital copies of these are saved in the RE folder on the Staff Shared area. Resources from Twinkl are also used and these are saved with the plans and in the RE folder.

Links with parents and the community

We organise trips to local places of worship. We also use parents and local community leaders to talk about their religions and share their knowledge. At Summerside we believe carefully planned trips to places of worship and meeting representatives from faith communities are enjoyable and also increase interest and build understanding between children of different faiths and cultures.

RE Coordinator Rachel Silver

Dated September 2019

Policy review date

Appendix 1

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 1	Special times	Special places	Special books and stories
Year 2	Beliefs	Leaders and teachers	Symbols
Year 3	Inspirational people	Religion and Individual	Religion, family and community
Year 4	Symbols	Teaching and Authority - Sacred texts	Beliefs
Year 5	Inspirational people	Worship	Beliefs in action
Year 6	Pilgrimages and special places	The journey of life and death	Transition unit