



Abberley Parochial V.C. Primary School

Inspiring Hearts & Minds

Abberley Parochial V.C. Primary School Religious Education Policy 2013

Reviewed November 2015

This policy is written after production of the 2015-2020 Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education by Worcestershire County Council Education Services and adopted by Abberley Parochial V.C. Primary School in September 2015. We acknowledge the good work of the Members and quote from it verbatim in our Policy.

This policy is not intended to incite or convert pupils from one Religious belief to another, but to give insight and knowledge so that all may respect and understand each other's religions.

The aims of Religious Education

The principal aim of religious education is to explore the significant questions in life, to find out what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can from connections to make sense of religion and worldviews, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

This aim can be broken down into three main areas:

- To enable pupils to develop knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews.
- To enable pupils to express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews.
- To enable pupils to gain and deploy the skills needed to investigate and understand religions and worldviews.

The inclusive phrase religions and worldviews refers to Christianity, other principal religions represented in Britain, smaller religious communities and non-religious worldviews such as humanism.

The legal requirements of the Education Act 1996 is that an Agreed Syllabus must:

- Reflect the fact that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain (1996 Chapter 56 Section 375 (3)).
- Ensure that the Legal Framework for Religious Education, The Education Act (1966), the School Standards and Framework Act (1998) and the Education Act (2002) requirements are met – see WCC Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.

RE is locally determined through the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2015-2020.

Scheme of Work

The scheme of work covers a different theme each half a term which brings in different religions within the theme. The scheme ensures coverage of the Agreed Syllabus.

All pupils learn Christianity in each Key Stage. In addition pupils learn from principal religions represented in the UK. Further details of what is studied at each stage are provided in the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2015-2020.

Time Allocation:

5% of curriculum time per week, not including those parts of RE covered in Collective Worship, is allocated to R.E. At Abberley this will amount to Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children receiving 1 hour per week (or 36 hours per year) and Key Stage Two receiving 1 and a quarter hours per week (or 45 hours per year) depending on the timetable.

Visits

The school organizes trips to places of worship and to Diocesan organized events in churches and the Cathedral. Parents are asked to give permission for these visits.

Visitors

We have regular visits from members and leaders of our local church. Visitors from other communities are always welcome.

Resources

St Mary's, Abberley is our local church, and we receive advice and help from leaders of our local church including Sallie Butcher who is chaplain for our school and also a school governor appointed by the Diocese. The church is used for school services, RE teaching and many other areas of the curriculum.

Areas of reflection are available to the children throughout the school which they are encouraged to use. There are boxed resources available for teachers and children linked to each religion taught. We also have the link with the church for many resources.

An audit takes place annually, by the Co-ordinator and appropriate resources are purchased from the Budget for R.E.

Assessment

Children's work in R.E. will be assessed and the Level Descriptions for the Religious Education Attainment Targets will assist in the making of summative judgements about pupils' achievement as a basis for reporting at the end of a key stage. Teachers will judge which level description "best fits" that pupil's performance, using their professional judgement.

Special Educational Needs- including Gifted and Talented and More Able Learners

RE is for all pupils.

We provide effective learning opportunities for all pupils by:

- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

ICT

Pupils will be given opportunities, where appropriate, to develop and apply their information and communication technology (ICT) capability in their study of religious education.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development and the Role of Religious Education.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is the concern of the whole school curriculum. Religious education has a special role to play in this development, but it is only a part of the whole picture. As a whole school we provide a learning environment which stimulates pupils' growth as individuals and this is represented in the school ethos.

Children are encouraged to see the good in everyone, but to accept that we are all different. They are encouraged to be thoughtful, sensitive and caring to other people and to the world environment. They are asked to be thankful and appreciative of all they have and help those with less e.g. through supporting charities.

Children are taught to be responsible for themselves and their own actions and to develop the skills to understand how their actions can affect others. They are asked to be honest and truthful and develop a knowledge and sensitivity to right and wrong.

The children are taught to be a responsible member of the school and wider community. They are encouraged to put this learning into practice through our citizenship groups. They understand about being part of a group, team, community and the commitments this involves, e.g. team sports, clubs like cubs and scouts and what being part of the village community means. Another development is the weekly after school Fish club, which is run like a Sunday school.

The children are provided with opportunities to express themselves through the arts, time to reflect during quiet prayer time and to celebrate, for example celebrating religious holidays across a variety of faiths. Fortnightly celebration assemblies focus on praising the children for achievements both in and out of school as well as celebrating children who are demonstrating the school values. The RE Syllabus links closely with the PSHE and Citizenship syllabus.

Links with the local community

We invite in members of the local community to our Collective Worship in Church and half termly celebration assemblies in the Village Hall. Local community members have been invited to speak at Assemblies and members of the church lead Collective Worship regularly.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from R.E. lessons, but we would hope they would discuss their decision first with the Headteacher.

Co-ordinator Mrs C Lightfoot
R.E. Governor Mrs S Butcher

Approved by the Governors November 2015

Review Date November 2016

Signed

Date