

# Policy for the Teaching and Learning of R.E. at Armley Park Primary School

## **Introduction:**

At Armley Park Primary School we understand that the school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that our school plans for its pupils. The National Curriculum forms one part of our school curriculum. We have ensured that there is time and space in our school curriculum to go beyond the National Curriculum, as appropriate, to meet the needs of all our pupils. We have planned teaching and learning in school so that our curriculum is knowledge-rich and builds on prior attainment to ensure that we have high expectations of achievement by all children in all subjects.

We believe in providing all our children with a broad range of opportunities and experiences both within and outside school, and our entitlement curriculum - rich with visits out of school, inspirational visitors and collaborative opportunities with other schools in the Owlcotes Multi-Academy Trust - has been developed to ensure that this is possible.

At Armley Park we are committed to providing a curriculum that equips our children with the knowledge, skills and experiences for their future. We aim to ensure children have a 'view of the world' outside their local community whilst maintaining a sense of belonging and understanding of where they are from.

Focus weeks are used to encourage whole school learning around a particular theme. EYFS objectives, National Curriculum objectives and other exciting learning is taught throughout these weeks, which culminate in a community event to showcase our learning and provide opportunities to engage with parents.

## **Purpose of the R.E. Policy:**

This policy outlines the teaching and learning of religious education. All children will have the opportunity to undertake religious education throughout their time at Armley Park Primary School. This will be structured so as to give a sound basis for further work. Knowledge and Skills progression is a key element of our religious education, curriculum and planning reflects the progressive nature of religious education skills. Children are provided with opportunities to develop and build upon skills taught previously.

## **Aims of the R.E. Policy:**

- Investigate the beliefs and practices of religions and other world views;
- Investigate how religions and other worldviews address questions of meaning, purpose and value;
- Value and respect themselves and other people at school, at home and in the community;
- Investigate how religions and other worldviews influence morality, identity and diversity.

## **Objectives of the R.E. Policy:**

To achieve our aims, we ensure that the planned activities our children undertake are challenging, motivating, relevant and enjoyable. We give children confidence in their work by providing continual support and encouragement. Children are challenged in their work in a way which develops their expertise. Children are provided with the very best resources possible, while constantly reviewing this provision in the light of curriculum changes, development and budget constraints. The rationale of RE at Armley Park Primary school is to ensure that the resources are used to teach RE in line with the long-term plan for each year group.

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### **Curriculum and School Organisation:**

At Armley Park Primary School we aim to teach R.E as part of a broad and balanced curriculum by delivering both the Leeds Syllabus objectives and supplementary knowledge and skills applicable to our school context. We aim to use a varied way of teaching and learning which include role-play and drama as an aid to understanding the beliefs of each of the faiths. We use real life artefacts for the children to experience and learn from.

At Armley Park Primary School we aim to provide visits to religious site and visits from visitors located around the Armley school community so it is used as a positive to enhance our curriculum.

Although all areas of the EYFS profile are relevant, RE particularly supports the development of: Communication and Language; Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Understanding the World.

The syllabus requires school to focus on specific core religions at each key stage:

**KS1**- Christianity, Islam

**LKS2**- Islam, Christianity, Judaism

**UKS2**- Islam, Christianity, Judaism and Sikhism

In addition, other (non-religious) world views must be included as part of the curriculum at each key stage.

### **R.E. Curriculum Planning:**

RE is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. Our school ensures programmes of study from the National Curriculum are planned and taught. At times our teaching goes beyond the National Curriculum to ensure the curriculum meets the needs of our pupils. Our long-term plans, which are shared on the school web-site, gives an overview of the units of work which each child will be able to access throughout the academic year. It is a progressive curriculum, building on the foundations of learning each year.

Planning for People, Cultures and Communities and The World in EYFS, is linked to enhancements in provision, inside and outdoors, as well as during adult led teaching and learning. Discussions about the world, people, their cultures and communities are linked to real learning opportunities in school and in the local community. Children's own experiences also enrich the learning of others. Teachers plan for knowledge to be shared and support play, linked to what children know and are interested in.

### **Assessment in R.E.**

At Armley Park Primary School assessing a child's level of knowledge and skills in religious education is a continuous process carried out throughout school. Our methods of assessment include the following as appropriate:

1. Looking at children's books; i.e. photographs, digital work and written work.
2. Individual and group discussions with children in both knowledge-based and skill-based sessions.
3. Listening to children's ideas as they discuss between themselves during learning tasks.
4. Recording the progress that children make by assessing children's work against the learning objectives for the lesson or series of lessons.

### **Resources:**

We have sufficient resources and equipment in our school to be able to teach all the RE units from Leeds syllabus. The Leeds Department of Education's Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education provides many teaching resources and ideas. In addition to this, we have a range of resources available to use, covering a variety of religions. Staff who require additional resources should contact

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the RE leader who will organise-purchase of these as appropriate in line with the school improvement plan and budget.

### **Health and Safety Concerns relating to R.E.**

- Ensure that a risk assessment has been carried out before a visit is organised to site outside of school.
- Ensure that DBS checks have been done for visitors who are invited to attend.
- Ensure sites are accessible for SEN and / or disabilities
- Where children participate in activities ensure a risk assessment has been done.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of R.E. throughout the school:**

The RE subject leader takes an overview of standards and of the quality of teaching in Religious education and to ensure that books, videos and artefacts are available and well-cared for and to purchase additional materials when necessary. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of RE and encourage continuity and progression across age groups and all pupils, regardless of race, religion, ability or gender, and will be given equal opportunities to take part in the teaching of R.E. This RE policy will be monitored by the curriculum leader.

**Policy Written by Somi Nessa (RE Leader)**

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