

Sidmouth Primary School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY – Spring 2007

Introduction

RE is a curriculum subject required by Statute under the *Education Reform Acts 1988, 1996*. However, unlike subjects in the National Curriculum, RE is taught in accordance with the Kingston-upon-Hull Locally Agreed Syllabus (2005). This syllabus has its own programme of study and attainment target level descriptions. These are:

- AT1 - knowledge and understanding
- AT2 - reflection and response

Christianity receives more attention than any other religious tradition. Sidmouth Primary has a good relationship with our local church St Johns. On Fridays, workers and other members of the church regularly attend and participate in assemblies for Key Stages 1 and 2. Parents may withdraw their child from all or part of RE lessons by notifying the Headteacher. Children who are withdrawn during Friday's Christian assemblies are taken to a classroom and given activities to do, supervised by a member of staff. Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to join 'Fuse Club' which explores the Christian faith and is organised by members of St Johns church. Currently 'Fuse' clubs are during lunchtime and after school. Sidmouth Primary school is used by St Johns church on a Sunday roughly once each half term to run a 'Fuse café', where parents are invited to bring their children.

Aims

Our aims for RE is that all pupils will:

- develop an enjoyment for studying RE
- ensure children have their entitlement to a weekly lesson
- acquire and develop the knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principle religions represented in the United Kingdom
- develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values, and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures
- develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgments about religious and moral issues
- enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- develop a positive attitude to all people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs and towards living in a diverse society

Implementing RE

To go alongside the "Agreed Syllabus", the LA has produced a scheme of work through which the syllabus can be delivered. This is divided into Foundation stage, Key stage 1, Lower Key stage 2 and Upper Key stage 2.

The scheme of work is based on the programmes of study has been devised to ensure continuity and progression throughout all the stages. There are 6 units of work for each year group (see appendix 1).

The Programmes of Study are built around 5 study elements:

- Celebrations
- People
- Places
- Rituals
- Writings

Cross curricular links

RE is a very broad subject, so it forms natural links with a range of other curriculum areas notably PHSE, Literacy, History, Geography Music and Art.

The National Curriculum requires subjects to provide opportunities for ICT and these should also be available in RE. These may include opportunities for word-processing, spreadsheets, databases, the internet for research and the use of digital cameras.

Teaching methods

A range of teaching methods should include:

- Presentation by the teacher
- Discussion/circle time
- Individual and group research
- T.V./video programmes/ICT
- Visits to places of worship
- Visiting speakers / representatives of different faiths
- Role play/drama

Differentiation

All pupils have access to R.E. unless parents have withdrawn them. Within the teaching of R.E. there should be provision for pupils at different levels of attainment. Differentiation will be shown through outcome, the level of the task set, adult support, response or organisation.

Equal Opportunities

The school believes that it is important for all pupils to have the opportunities for spiritual development and awareness, and for understanding of the great religions.

RE is taught at a level appropriate to the age, ability and experience of the pupils, and is therefore accessible to all. All children will be given equal access to RE irrespective of race, gender, creed, level of ability or nationality.

Evaluation and Assessment

Assessment opportunities will be based on the End of Key Statements as set out in the Humberside Agreed Syllabus. Evidence is gathered mainly through observation, oral discussion, written tasks and drawing.

School reports sent out at the end of the year provide feedback for both pupils and parents, and may form the basis for further discussion

To ensure continuity and progression the RE co-ordinator will monitor lessons and planning throughout the school.

Resources

R.E. resources are kept in the resources room. At the end of each study unit teachers should report to the co-ordinator about the range and quality of resources and identify any additions they feel are necessary. Additional resources will be purchased as budget requirements allow.

Review

This document is due for review in Autumn 2008.