

Religious Education

Intent

At Stanton, our RE curriculum is designed to engage and enthuse learners. We believe that it is an essential area of study which ensures that children are well prepared for life in a world where there is cultural and religious diversity and a multitude of viewpoints. We enable the children to make their own informed decisions and to have the confidence to voice their views. It is a subject for all pupils, whatever their own family background and personal beliefs and practices.

We aim to develop pupils' understanding of world faiths and other beliefs by exploring their commonality and diversity. There is both depth and breadth of study as children are encouraged to enquire, question and think about different religions and world views. The curriculum aims to nurture pupils' awareness of diversity as well as sensitivity to the questions and challenges that different views, religions and cultures can present. We want our children to enjoy RE and develop resilient responses to misunderstandings, stereotyping and division. We want to offer the children a place where difficult or 'risky' questions can be tackled within a safe but challenging context. We aim to provide our children with religious literacy where they will develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major World Religions and explore their responses in relation to questions that studying these religions raise. This gives pupils the knowledge and skills to flourish both within their own community and as members of a diverse and global society.

Implementation

Our enquiry based RE curriculum is high quality, with well thought out Unit Plans to highlight essential learning and key skills to ensure progression. The religions and themes studied are recurrent, allowing pupils to build on their long-term memories within the year, as well as year on year. Pupils will be taught appropriate and progressive vocabulary so that they are able to consider and express their personal views and beliefs articulately and respectfully.

Our RE Curriculum follows the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus for RE, with an emphasis on two core fields of learning – *Learning **about** Religions and Beliefs* and *Learning **from** Religions and Beliefs*. Christianity will also be taught through the Understanding Christianity scheme of work.

Children are given 36 hours of RE tuition over the school year in FS/KS1, and 45 hours over the school year in KS2, delivered using a combination of weekly RE lessons, RE focus days, trips to religiously significant places, and by inviting visitors into school. During each Key Stage, pupils are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about Christianity and Judaism through KS1, and Christianity, Hinduism and Islam in KS2. In the EYFS, RE will primarily focus on Christianity, with celebrations from other World Religions shared throughout the year. Each unit of work identifies prior learning and shows how this is built upon.

Throughout the key stages RE teaching will include:

- Beliefs, teachings and source
- Practices and ways of life
- Ways of expressing meaning
- Questions of identity, diversity and belonging
- Questions of meaning, purpose and truth
- Questions of values and commitments

Our RE curriculum will also provide opportunities and explore British values, such as democracy, the rule of law, liberty, mutual respect and tolerance.

Impact

At Stanton St Quintin Primary School, children will have a broad and balanced understanding and awareness of the world around them. Children will acknowledge the diversity, religions and beliefs of their local community and the wider world, and know their own value in adding to this. Children will be confident in discussing philosophical questions and know how to be respectful as a listener. They will be sensitive to the views and beliefs of others, and know that religious education has an impact on the future evolution of society. They will know that they are in a community where their own thoughts, views and beliefs are valued and are safe to be shared.

Our children will leave school with a continued interest in learning about the cultural and religious beliefs of others and with the confidence and skills to make decisions, to self-evaluate, and to continue to ask important questions.

