

Curriculum Policy for Religious Education

1 Introduction

- 1.1 R.E. is an integral part of the curriculum of this school. This policy outlines the purpose nature and management of R.E. in our school.
- 1.2 The school policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and foundation governors. It was drawn up in consultation with the Governing Body and was **first** agreed at their meeting on 21st May 1997.
- 1.3 The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff.

2 Aims of the School

- 2.1 Our school is a Church School and at all times we promote a Christian, caring attitude, which enables the children in our care to have due regard for each other's needs and in which the individual can develop a strong self esteem.
- 2.2 The whole staff supports and upholds the Christian foundation of the school, and Christian values are built into our teaching and ethos.

3 Aims of R.E.

- 3.1 To help the child's understanding of Christianity as a living faith.
- 3.2 To help the children to an awareness of other World Faiths and their influence upon people's lives.
- 3.3 To foster within the child, a positive approach to life, to be sensitive to the needs and lifestyles of another sex, physical condition, class, race or age.
- 3.4 To introduce children to the idea of the religious quest i.e.

What is the meaning of life?
Is there a supreme being?
What is important in life?
What are my responsibilities to others?

- 3.5 To deepen the child's spiritual and moral awareness.

- 3.6 **Children will be taught two attainment targets:**

Learning About Religions & Exploring Human Experience

A1

Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain and their associated beliefs, experiences and practices.

A2

Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of some of the influences of life experiences, beliefs, values and faith traditions upon individuals, communities, societies and cultures.

Learning From Religion & Responding to Human Experience

B1:2

Responding to core questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions, and to their own understanding and experience.

B1:3

Reflecting on their own beliefs, values, perceptions and experiences in the light of their study of religion.

B2

Develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs that are different from their own.

4 Values Implicit in this Policy

- 4.1 The autonomy of the individual.
- 4.2 A positive approach to life and to change.
- 4.3 People are "ends in themselves" and not "means to an end".
- 4.4 The Natural World should be treated with respect.
- 4.5 Equality of opportunities, according to needs and irrespective of race, culture, faith, ability or gender.

5 The Nature of R.E.

- 5.1 R.E. in this school will enable children to explore religion in order to achieve knowledge and understanding of religions and their associated beliefs, values and perceptions.
- 5.3 We aim to develop a respect by the children for the rights of other people to hold views and beliefs that are different from their own.
- 5.4 R.E. is concerned with questions of life, living and death. It deals with issues of meaning and purpose and with reality. It is concerned with how people understand themselves in relation to the world around them. It is to do with respecting others' views and knowing how they personally feel about issues.
- 5.5 R.E. is concerned with exploring how religions are lived and experienced Today. The emphasis is on the fact that religion matters to people. It affects their lives, influences their actions and gives meaning to their very existence.
- 5.6 It should be remembered that religion is rooted in the inner-world of a person's life and is based on knowledge which is felt and experienced. Children need to be helped to respect what other people believe and also helped to engage themselves in personal reflection and questioning. They need to be made aware of their own thoughts, feelings

6 Entitlement

- 6.1 It is a legal requirement that all children on the school register will partake in R.E. lessons of some form.
- 6.2 In accordance with the 1988 Educational Act parents have the right to withdraw their children from R.E. lessons. These children will be sent, with work, into another class, where the children may be considerably older or younger than themselves.

7 Implementation

- 7.1 The children will be taught R.E. according to the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus 2000 as laid out in the School Framework, and supported by the Lincolnshire Diocesan Board of Education. **This Syllabus is due to be updated in March 2006.**
- 7.2 The children will be taught in their class groups, using a variety of teaching strategies.
- 7.3 R.E. will be enhanced by including work from the DIPSI Scheme, especially in KS1.
- 7.4 The Clergy from All Saints Church Friskney and Wainfleet Methodist Church will be involved with working with the children in Upper Key Stage 2. Religious leaders from other faiths will be invited into School from time to time to talk about their faith.
- 7.5 The children in upper Key Stage 2 will be given the opportunity to be involved in The Lincoln Diocesan Church Schools' Festival held at Lincoln Cathedral.
- 7.6 All teachers will be responsible for the planning and teaching of R.E.
- 7.7 The children's work may include drama, music and movement, art and craft designs and models, written work, recorded work on audio tape and listening to invited speakers.
- 7.8 Children with special needs will follow the class R.E., having their work differentiated wherever necessary. Teachers will have regard for IEPs for individual children when planning work.
- 7.9 There will be equal opportunities for all children, of all faiths and none, in all R.E. work.
- 7.10 In Key Stage 1 36 hours per year will be allocated to R.E.
In Key Stage 2 45 hours per year will be allocated to R.E.

8 Assessment

- 8.1 Teachers will carry out annual assessments which will be reported to parents in the children's annual report.
- 8.2 **Teacher assessments will be recorded on 'Report Writer'. This record will be entered into the system at the end of each unit taught, following assessment.**

9 Inspection

- 9.1 RE in an Aided School will be inspected under Section 48 of the 2005 Education Act along with Denominational Collective Worship.

10 Review

- 10.1 The Staff and Foundation Governing Body will review this policy in line with the MIC School Self Evaluation Programme. It was first agreed at the Full Board Meeting of the Summer Term 1997.

- 10.2 The policy was updated in

September 1999
July 2001
May 2002
January 2006