

Date	Summer 2017
Review Date	Summer 2019
Signed by Designated Governor	Andrew Needle

Introduction

At Lewis Street primary school we believe the purpose for teaching Religious Education is to prepare pupils for living in a multi-faith society through learning about Christianity and other religions. The subject offers opportunities for reflection and challenges pupils to consider, analyse and evaluate issues. We have adopted the Manchester Diocesan Board of Education syllabus and work closely with our partnership school, Christ Church.

This syllabus has been chosen for the following reasons:

1. It provides a good balance between the teaching of Christianity and other faiths.
2. It provides a good basis of information allowing staff to teach all areas with sensitivity and knowledge.
3. The scheme ensures the teaching of RE is progressive and allows staff to focus in on aims and objectives.
4. We believe it gives children the skills, knowledge and experience to make informed choices in their own exploration of life and faith.
5. The syllabus allows children to become questful learners to discover more about themselves, others, the world and God.

Aims for the Religious Education Curriculum

- To learn about (explicit) and from (implicit) religion.
- To teach about all faiths in a positive way.
- To develop self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness and appreciation and wonder.
- To explain the meaning of other faiths and to promote respect for them.
- To encourage the children to recognise and value the faith of others.
- To promote spiritual, moral, social, cultural and mental development.

Legal Requirements

Schools have to provide RE for all pupils from Foundation Stage through to Year 6. We have adopted the Manchester Diocesan Board of Education syllabus. This syllabus reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. Children and young people also need to be equipped to handle increasingly complex and important questions about meaning and identity and how we can live together in a multi-cultural and multi-faith/belief society.

Equal Opportunities

R.E. will be taught in a way that promotes the schools equal opportunities policy and as such will:

- Allow all children to see their cultures and traditions represented in a sensitive way.
- Ensure the representation of Christianity as a world-wide faith embracing all races.

- Ensure that when presenting faiths other than our own to the children we will work from a basis of knowledge.
- Children should have opportunities to meet with members of other faith communities and hear them speak about their faith and traditions.
- As in all subjects, activities in RE are carefully differentiated to enable all pupils to achieve their potential.

Withdrawal

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their child wholly or partially from R.E. Where parents are wishing to exercise this right, the Governing Body would first suggest that the parents meet with the RE Coordinator or Head teacher to discuss their concerns. If the matter cannot be resolved, parents need to put their withdrawal request in writing to the Governing body. The Governing body will make arrangements with the Executive Head teacher and Head of School for the child or children to be supervised or engaged in another activity during this time.

Monitoring, Review and Assessment

Planning, assessment and record keeping is in line with the school's policies for these areas. Each lesson has an implicit and/or an explicit learning objective. Assessment grids for R.E. are provided and used by all staff. Parents are informed of their child's progress verbally during parent meetings and with summaries in the end of year report.

Each child has their own RE book and each class have an RE 'scrapbook'. The scrapbook contains evidence of pupils' discussions, comments and ideas, visits and visitors, photographs, group work, post it notes and printed work from the interactive whiteboard.

The RE syllabus uses the National Framework, Non-Statutory Attainment Targets for RE. They are:

ATTAINMENT TARGET 1: LEARNING ABOUT RELIGION AND BELIEF

ATTAINMENT TARGET 2: LEARNING FROM RELIGION AND BELIEF

Learning about religion includes enquiry into, and investigation of, the nature of religion. It focuses on beliefs, teachings and sources, practices and ways of life and forms of expression. It includes the skills of interpretation, analysis and explanation. Pupils learn to communicate their knowledge and understanding using specialist vocabulary. It includes identifying and developing an understanding of ultimate questions and ethical issues.

Learning from religion is concerned with developing pupils' reflection on, and response to, their own experiences and learning about religion. It develops pupils' skills of application, interpretation and evaluation of what they learn about religion, particularly questions of identity and belonging, meaning, purpose, truth, values and commitments, and communicating their responses.

As a school we expect children to achieve the following levels by the end of the school year:

- Year 1 Level 1
- Year 2 Level 2
- Year 4 Level 3
- Year 6 level 4

Teachers indicate clearly in their weekly planning the Level at which the children are working at. This is the beginning of the Assessment trail.

Assemblies and Collective Worship

The aim of collective worship in Lewis Street School is to provide experiences which deepen the inner senses and engender feelings of self-worth and the uniqueness of the individual. We strive to show the purpose and meaning to life, the awe and wonder of the natural world, as well as respect and a sense of belonging to the community. We believe it's a time when the whole school, or groups within the school, meet together in order to consider and reflect on school values, common concerns, issues, interests, cultures and faiths. As a school we meet together in assembly as a celebration and a time for reflecting on things that have worth and meaning to the community, this forms part of our collective worship. This happens at least three times a week for Phase 2 and 3 and twice a week for Phase 1. Children are also given reflection time in class which lasts for around 15 minutes, but this time may be shortened or lengthened, as appropriate and occurs at least once a week.