



The Religious Education Curriculum at North Nibley C of E Primary: A statement of intent



North Nibley is predominantly a white, British community where the majority of families would identify as either Christian or of no specific belief.

Religious Education has a significant role for the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourages pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection. Our aim for RE is to engage pupils in an enquiry approach where they can develop an understanding and appreciation for the expression of beliefs, cultural practices and influence of principle religions and worldviews in the local, national and wider global community, this in turn directly contributes to meeting our identified need to provide, across all the school, a curriculum which recognises and respects diversity.

Through the introduction to different religions and belief systems, by teaching pupils the skills of listening and respect, children of all backgrounds and abilities will be prepared to meet those of different faith backgrounds and show respect to them. Our curriculum will include studies on different customs within Christianity as well as the main religions of Judaism, Islam and Hinduism.

The curriculum of R.E. is coherently planned. We use the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE as a starting point, which begins in the Early Years and contributes significantly to the 'People, Culture and Communities' Early Learning Goal. The syllabus is supported by the 'Understanding Christianity' scheme of work. Progression is built into these schemes since both 'Understanding Christianity' and the Agreed Syllabus are developed along a 'spiral' path, where children repeatedly meet key concepts and develop them further. Teachers reiterate previous learning and experiences before moving on to the next unit, to ensure that pupils know more and remember more about R.E. as they advance through the school.

By design, the RE curriculum is ambitious for all pupils. At North Nibley it takes them 'beyond' and outside their day-to-day experience and we intend to enrich their learning through the support of visitors and visits to places of worship, both locally and further afield. Many of the school's values are naturally integrated into our R.E. curriculum – Respect, Friendship, Compassion, Responsibility and Justice.

Our teaching will enable discussion to take place, where pupils will feel safe to share their beliefs and know that they will be listened to and respected. Key ideas will be explored creatively through Art and Drama, providing children with further ways to express their views whilst learning about and from the main religions represented in the UK and around the world.

We will also recognise the contribution of faith groups towards today's environmental and humanitarian concerns – our second 'golden thread' will be evident as we consider the way we and others care for a created world and for each other.

When children leave North Nibley, we intend that they have a secure understanding and knowledge of the religions studied; are confident to ask and offer possible answers to challenging questions about the meaning of life, beliefs, nature of reality and morality and are able to reflect upon their own beliefs. But, more importantly, that they have respect and compassion for others. Through their R.E. learning, the children will be able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world, developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life. As such, R.E. is vital in an ever changing and growing global society.

Becci Surridge, Subject Leader, February 2022.