

The Avenue Primary School

R.E. Policy



Policy Lead	Jayne Booth / Kelly Jackson
Date	November 2020
Review date	November 2023 (every 3 years)

Context

- The context of RE at The Avenue Primary School is that of an average sized suburban primary school, serving children in the age range 3-11.
- We teach according to the SACRE Middlesbrough Agreed Syllabus (2020-25)
- We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. We welcome the diversity and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each child.
- We recognise the inter-relationship between pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and the leading role which the RE curriculum plays in some of these areas.

The Aims of RE at The Avenue Primary School

RE at The Avenue will be provided in line with the legal requirements.

These are that:

- The basic curriculum will include provision for religious education for all pupils on the school roll;
- The content of RE shall reflect the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain;
- The RE which is provided shall be in accordance with the SACRE Middlesbrough Agreed Syllabus (2020-25)

Within the framework of the law and the Agreed Syllabus, the aims in RE at The Avenue Primary school are for pupils to:

- Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in the United Kingdom;
- Develop an understanding of the influence of religious and non-religious worldviews, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies and cultures, locally, nationally and globally;
- Develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, with reference to the teachings and diversity within the religious and non-religious worldviews represented in the United Kingdom;
- Enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by:
 - Developing awareness of the fundamental questions of life raised by human experiences, and of how religious teachings and other beliefs can relate to them;
 - Responding to such questions with reference to the teachings and practices of religions and worldviews relating them to their own understanding and experience;
 - Reflecting on their own beliefs, values and experiences in the light of their study;

- Develop positive attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions and worldviews.

Time Allocation

It is recommended that RE is taught for a minimum of 36 hours per year at Key Stage One, and 45 hours per year at Key Stage Two.

The time allocated for teaching RE at The Avenue Primary School is:

EYFS - 50 minutes

KS1 - 1 hour

KS2 - 1 hour

RE curriculum time does not include assembly or collective worship, even when the assembly provides a starting point for curricular work. Christmas and Easter production rehearsals and performances are not RE.

Scheme of Work

Detailed schemes of work are available on staff shared. Each year group also has an RE schemes of work folder.

Religion coverage:

EYFS - themes emerging from the EYFS Framework

KS1 - Christianity and Islam

Lower KS2 - Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism

Upper KS2 - Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Humanist views

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Our policy is to aim to ensure the use in RE of Art, Drama, PSHE, thinking skills and speaking / listening activities. Visits, visitors, ICT use, display work and other active learning strategies will also be used. Cross-curricular work is encouraged, in line with whole school policy on teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of teaching to the SACRE Agreed Syllabus in a creative, knowledge-rich, broad and balanced way.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources to support our RE teaching that we continue to develop. Resources are stored electronically in Staff Shared > 2020.21 > RE, along with boxes of resources in the cupboard next to the conference room. Resources should be returned after use.

Our school has invested in new books, religious artefacts and picture packs to link in with the schemes of work.

A regular audit of resources takes place by the RE subject leaders in order to update our collection.

Visits and visitors

All children will have the opportunity to visit the local church at Harvest and Christmas during their time at The Avenue Primary School.

There will also be the opportunity for children during their education to visit a local mosque.

The RE subject leaders support class teachers to organise educational visits.

Matching Work to Pupils' Needs

Our whole school policy regarding pupils with special needs and differentiation, applies to RE. Teachers should be alert to the fact that some children have special and deep experience of a religion through family practice. This of course may not relate to their general educational ability.

Assessment

Teaching staff to use the SACRE Agreed Syllabus unit learning outcomes to assess the children against the criteria for 'emerging' and 'expected'. There is an assessment section in the KS1 and KS2 annual reports sent out to parents for RE.

The Avenue Big Books show case RE work covered throughout the year across each year group, including samples of children's work, photographs, pupil voice and evidence of visits and visitors.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We intend that this policy should operate for the next 5 years, and then be fully reviewed by staff and Governors. There will however be a review after 3 years (recommended practice). The subject leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice.

We maintain a 'self-evaluation' of RE in preparation for any scrutiny, including lesson observations/ learning walks throughout the year and monitoring evidence in children's books along with the year group big books.

Self-Evaluation

The subject leaders for RE will assess and review the subject's strengths and areas for development. This is incorporated into an annual RE action plan.

Staff training and CPD

All staff have access to RE CPD in line with the subject leader's identified areas for development. This is either 'in house' or from an external provider. The RE subject leaders also attends local network meetings.

Withdrawal

We note the Human Right of parents to withdraw their children from RE and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open curriculum, which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff. Teachers are asked to refer to the Head Teacher / Deputy Head Teacher any questions from parents about withdrawals. Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RE should be made in writing to the Head Teacher and a record kept of them.