

Religious Education Intent, Implementation, Impact statement

RE

Quote from "Religious education in English schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010"

RE subject matter gives particular opportunities to promote an ethos of respect for others, challenge stereotypes and build understanding of other cultures and beliefs. This contributes to promoting a positive and inclusive school ethos that champions democratic values and human rights.

In summary, religious education for children and young people:

- provokes challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong, and what it means to be human. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal religions, and religious traditions that examine these questions, fostering personal reflection and spiritual development.
- encourages pupils to explore their own beliefs (whether they are religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of religious belief and faith and how these impact on personal, institutional and social ethics; and to express their responses. This also builds resilience to anti-democratic or extremist narratives.
- enables pupils to build their sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society.
- teaches pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice.
- prompts pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.

RE Intent

Our curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to fly high and to reach their full potential, within the love of Jesus.

The RE curriculum at Newton Solney has been designed for all children with these goals in mind:

- To build a sense of identity and belonging within the world in which they live.
- To learn from and about religion, so that children can understand the world around them.
- To help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.
- To appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and behaviour.
- To develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- To ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences.
- To promote British values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens.
- To encourage deep thought and personal reflection on big questions and ideas.

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Our aim is to develop children's respectful attitudes towards others, including people with different faiths and beliefs. We want to foster an understanding of diversity within the school, local community and wider area.

Implementation

At Newton Solney we use the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education developed by Derby City and Derbyshire and also the "Understanding Christianity" materials as the basis for our curriculum. The three religions we have chosen to study are Christianity, Islam and Judaism with festivals from other religions e.g. Divalli, studied at relevant times. RE is taught as a stand alone subject in all three classes with daily Collective worship attended by all. The religious background of all members of the school community are valued and utilised in our learning journey. Children are confident to share their own experiences. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community. As a church school we have strong links with our local church and vicar. We acknowledge that each religion studied can contribute to the education of all our pupils. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for both staff and children. Tasks are selected and designed to provide appropriate challenge for all learners, in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. Cross curricular outcomes in RE are specifically planned for, with strong links between RE, PSHE and Literacy lessons.

Impact

Outcomes in RE and literacy books, evidence a broad and balanced RE curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. As children progress through the school, they develop a knowledge, understanding and appreciation of world religions and their place within the wider world. Through their R.E. learning, children are challenged to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. Our children are developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life. RE understanding, as well as children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural learning is supported and developed.

R.E. offers our children the means by which to understand how other people choose to live and to understand why they choose to live in that way. As such, R.E. is invaluable in an ever-changing world.