

# Kilby St Mary's CofE (Aided) Primary School

## Religious Education Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body : February 2015

Review date: February 2018

Signed

Chair of Governors

## **Kilby St Mary's CofC (Aided) Primary School RE Policy**

### **Introduction**

Religious Education at Kilby St Mary's C of E school aims to provide all children with the stimulus to be caring, honest and open-minded. Religious Education is part of the basic curriculum but not part of the National Curriculum because it is taught in accordance with a locally agreed syllabus (in our case the One Leicester Harmony and Diversity Agreed Syllabus). However, it has the same status and importance as any other subject.

Since Kilby St Mary's is a Voluntary Aided Primary School Religious Education holds a special place in our school life and adds to the general ethos of the school. R.E. is not an isolated area of the curriculum but must be seen in the context of the whole curriculum. At Kilby, we explore the religions of Hinduism, Islam and Sikhism in addition to Christianity.

The Christian ethos of the school forms the starting point for all teaching and learning and Religious Education forms an important part of this overall ethos. It provides a means for children to develop an understanding of their own and others' beliefs so they come to value themselves and to respect others. We encourage the children to follow Christ's teaching to love and to serve one another so they can take their place in a multicultural, multiracial society.

**The aim of our religious education teaching is to provide opportunities for children to:**

- develop an understanding of religion and faith and their place in today's society
- Learn from religions as well as about religions.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions
- Explore issues between faiths to help them understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions and understand the influence of these on individuals, societies, communities and cultures
- consider questions of meaning and purpose in life
- learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed judgements on religious and moral issues
- develop their sense of themselves as significant, unique and precious.
- develop enquiry and response skills through the use of distinctive language, listening and empathy
- reflect on, analyse and evaluate their beliefs, values and practices and

- communicate their responses
- to experience awe and wonder and explore spirituality

RE does not seek to impose religious beliefs on children nor to compromise the integrity of their own beliefs by promoting one religion over another. It is also not the same as collective worship which has its own place in school life.

### **Curriculum Organisation**

Key points of the syllabus:

- Christianity is to be studied at each key stage.
- Children will learn about some of the major faiths represented in the communities of Leicester/Leicestershire.

### **Curriculum time for RE**

This time will either be used weekly or on an accumulated basis dependent on age group, particular topic or on off factors. Religious Education may be taught as a discrete subject or as part of other curriculum areas such as PSHE. In the Foundation Stage, RE is integrated into programmes from the early learning goals.

### **Resources**

Resources for RE are of good quality and used appropriately; there is a selection of books, posters, jigsaws, dvd's and authentic artefacts. Requests can also be made to 'Leicestershire Library Services' for any specific artefacts or books.

Visits out of school are dependent on voluntary contributions from parents.

The scheme of work provides for visits to the places of worship of the primary religions represented in the local area.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

RE teaching and assessment is monitored by the subject manager throughout each academic year. Work samples are collected and presented in the Christian Ethos portfolio.

### **Success Criteria**

Children develop an understanding of Christianity and other major religions and a respect for the beliefs of others. Whether they have their own faith or not, children have an understanding of the place of faith in modern society and in their own lives are able to discuss religious issues with sensitivity and integrity.

**Role of Subject Manager**

The subject manager maintains an overview of the subject along with the RE Governor. Please see job description for subject managers for detailed description of role.

**Scheme of Work**

This is available in the subject manager's curriculum folder.

The content of the Religious Education programme draws on the One Leicester Harmony and Diversity Agreed Syllabus.

**Withdrawal from RE**

It is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child then arrangements should be made in consultation with the Head teacher.

**Date for review**

This policy will be reviewed in January 2016