



***“Show me your way, Lord teach me your paths.” Psalms (25.4)***

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY**

### **RATIONALE**

Religious Education (RE) at Almondsbury Primary School explores how individuals and communities make meaning and sense of their lives through the great religions of the world with particular emphasis towards the Christian faith. It enables pupils to know about, understand and respond to the important and ultimate questions of life. RE is taught in such a way that it inspires pupils to explore, develop and affirm their own faith and values and have respect for the faith, beliefs and values of others.

### **AIMS**

- Develop pupil's knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and practices so that they understand the importance of the Bible, the role of the Church, and recognise that for Christians their faith provides a way of interpreting life in all its fullness. Close links will be maintained with the local Church.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of some of the other principal religions such as Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism and Humanist beliefs.
- Understand how belief may impact upon culture, relationships, values and lifestyle.
- Assist children to develop the capacity to explore and reflect upon questions of meaning and purpose in life.
- Enable pupils to develop spiritually, morally, socially and emotionally through reflection upon personal feelings and relationships.
- Develop and sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- Develop the pupil's skills of prayer and reflection, spirituality, empathy, communication, analysis and evaluation etc.
- Develop attitudes of respect, sensitivity and tolerance.
- Develop opportunities or courageous advocacy through Character Education.

### **GUIDELINES**

- Children are taught Christianity through the SACRE Agreed Scheme of Work 'Understanding Christianity'. The South Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for

Religious Education (2022 – 2027) is the statutory document to which the RE SOW is matched for non-Christian units.

- RE is a statutory part of the Basic Curriculum and will be given at least 5% of Curriculum time.
- Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children but as RE is so central to the life and identity of Almondsbury School, we would ask parents to discuss with the Headteacher any reasons they might have for doing this.
- In EYFS Children will encounter Christianity and other faiths, as part of their growing sense of self, their own community and their place within it.
- At Key Stage One pupils focus on Christianity, Islam and Judaism.
- Key Stage Two pupils focus upon Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism and Humanist beliefs.
- Because of the broad nature of RE, it will form cross curriculum links with other subjects such as English, Art or Drama. A balance between the two attainment targets is maintained with clear learning outcomes for all units of work.
- RE is inclusive and taught at an appropriate level to the needs and abilities of the pupils.
- Wherever possible, a range of visitors will be invited and visits arranged to support the teaching and learning of RE. The new SoW offers a variety of suggestions for visits linked to the local Bristol and South Gloucestershire areas.

### **MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**

- The RE subject leader will support and monitor assessment of RE and will liaise and report to the Governing Body the progress in RE.
- Assessment of RE in South Gloucestershire is matched closely to the assessment systems of English and Maths. The children are assessed at Developing, Secure and Greater Depth. RE is reported to parents via the annual report and is assessed as 'working towards standard', 'at standard' and 'above standard'.

### **CONCLUSION**

"Religious Education should enable pupils to consider and respond to important questions related to their own spiritual development, the development of values and attitudes and fundamental questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life". (QCA 1999)

All staff, parents and Governors have been made aware of the contents of this policy, the implications for them and the education of their pupils.

The individual responsible for the leadership of RE is Nic Baykaa-Murray and Yasmin Ramli.

This policy will be reviewed in 2024.

Revised Oct 2022