



Religious Education Policy

The Educational Reform Act 1988 requires that:

Religious Education should be taught to all pupils in full-time education, except for those withdrawn at the wishes of their parents.

Philosophy

Religious Education (R.E.) relates directly to the whole curriculum. Every aspect of the life of a school and the experiences of its pupils can be illuminated by religious education. It helps our children to build up a worthwhile sense of direction, to achieve a valid perspective on life and to develop an understanding attitude towards each other.

Aims

1. Religious Education seeks to develop the pupil's knowledge and understanding and awareness of Christianity as the predominant religion of Great Britain, and the other principal religions represented in the country.
2. To encourage respect for those holding different beliefs.
3. To help promote and extend the pupil's spiritual, moral, cultural and mental development.

Objectives

1. To grow in awareness of others.
2. To approach life with confidence and an enquiring spirit.
3. To enter into relationships with others.
4. To develop caring attitudes.
5. To make moral choices and decisions.
6. To respond to spiritual and aesthetic dimensions of life.
7. To encourage children to be expressive about their feelings.
8. To clarify and enlarge their ideas about religion.

Skills and Attitudes

Skills

Self Understanding

Empathy

Enquiry/Investigation

Record, classify, listen to, question.



Communication	Describe and explain - oral and written but also through dance, drama, music, painting, etc.
Interpretation	Recognise metaphor, symbol, sign, ritual and explain its meaning.
Reasoning	To compare and contrast beliefs and practices, to provide arguments to explain personal point of view.
Reflection	Space to reach balanced conclusions or draw personal meaning from knowledge and experiences.

Attitudes

Curiosity	
Open-Mindedness	
Tolerance	Concern, respect and sensitivity for the convictions of others.
Self-Confidence	In their ability to reflect on religious issues and in family and cultural backgrounds.
Appreciation	Readiness to find religious ideas and practices of value.
Commitment	To the search for purpose and meaning of life.
Critical Awareness	Guard against imbalance, bias and prejudice.

Teaching and Learning (Provision: KS1 – 1 hour per week, KS2 – 75 minutes per week)

It is the policy of Ruislip Gardens Primary School that any programme of study must integrally relate to the nature, experience and needs of the child. Religious Education must be an 'enquiry' subject and not indoctrinating. Children should be enabled to explore their own (if any) and others' religious or cultural tradition. Children should have opportunities to explore their own feelings and experiences and empathise with others. As a result of such exploration, children can begin to understand other people and respect their right to hold beliefs and practices different to their own.

Children at all stages should be provided with information on principal religions and such information should be presented in an accurate and sensitive way.

Record Keeping and Assessment

Pupils will be assessed using the Pupil Assessment Monitoring Sheets (PAMS).

Assessment opportunities are highlighted in medium term plans and assessment is ongoing to ensure progression throughout the year groups. Records of such assessments are kept using the usual record keeping and assessment procedures.



Resources

We have a selection of artefacts and coloured pictures of the various faiths and beliefs covered by our curriculum. Extra resources are available through the Central Library Loan Scheme. We have a wide selection of books, both for the children and staff reference, which are added to when necessary and funds allow.

Equal Opportunities

At Ruislip Gardens Primary School we believe and promote that, whilst Christianity has the most substantial place (in line with the Education Reform Act), all religions are important. Children have much to gain in their spiritual development from the rich religious experiences of humanity.

Continuity and Progression

All staff follow the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. Planning and development are based on the two attainment targets and the Spiritual Development Strand. This aims to promote continuity and progression.

Learning about Religion	AT1.	The development of knowledge and understanding of religions
Learning from Religion	AT2.	The development of the ability to interpret beliefs, commitment and practice.
Spiritual Development Strand. The development of the awareness of spiritual dimension of self and others in the world.		

The School has long term plans which break down the R.E. curriculum and content into year groups. This ensures continuity and progression.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Long and Medium Terms plans are available for each year group to enable monitoring of R.E. throughout the school. These plans can be evaluated and discussed at the end of each term.

Monitoring and evaluation of children's work will be carried out via the usual assessment procedures and will be overseen by the R.E. Co-ordinator.

Development Plans

The School aims to continue to extend its range of R.E. books and resources.

To acquire more visual aids, CD Roms.

To devise and use a pupil questionnaire.

To incorporate as necessary new SACRE document when it is published.