



# Sutton Veny CofE Primary School

## Religious Education Policy

At Sutton Veny CofE Primary School we want the very best for every child and so we provide an environment where they will be safe, happy, thrive and succeed. Our strong team of staff and governors are driven by a common goal – **to value, care for, guide and support each child to help them realise their potential.**

At the heart of Sutton Veny CofE School are the Christian Values. Alongside the Christian teachings the children are immersed in a rich Religious Education and the aim is to ensure the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of all of the pupils, and to also develop respect, tolerance and understanding of World faiths and attitudes, as children face the demands of the contemporary world.

### **Aims n Religious Education**

“The principal aim of RE in Wiltshire is to engage in enquiring into key questions arising from the study of religion and belief, so as to promote their personal and spiritual development.” - Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus

Sutton Veny School aims:

- To provide opportunities for spiritual development and help children to develop an understanding of the meaning and purpose of life.
- To develop pupil's knowledge and understanding of Christian Beliefs and global practices
- To develop pupil's knowledge and understanding of other principal religions.
- To appreciate and wonder different beliefs and attitudes
- To develop a reflective approach to life and explore right and wrong with reference to religious and human experience.
- To develop individuals so they become confident to express ideas about their own beliefs and those of others
- To develop an understanding of the meaning and purpose of life.
- To develop respect and open-mindedness of others

### **Teaching and Learning**

RE is delivered in line with the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus and consistently, throughout the school, the Understanding Christianity Resource is used. To teach other world faiths and to compliment the overall teaching of RE, the Discovery resource is used.

In the Early Years, RE is embedded throughout the curriculum and takes the form of role play, sharing stories and celebrating festivals in Christianity and other world religions through the early learning goals. In Key Stage 1, children learn about Christianity, Islam and Judaism. In Key Stage 2, alongside Christianity, children learn about Hinduism, Sikhism Buddhism and Islam. As the children move through the years, they have the opportunity to compare more religions as they explore different faiths and beliefs.

Through the following fields of enquiry: beliefs, teachings and sources, practices and ways of life, ways of expressing meaning, questions of identity and belonging, questions of meaning, purpose and truth and questions of values and commitments, the children are focusing on key skills and learning how to:

- Investigate - to ask big questions and show curiosity and intrigue
- Interpret - to interpret religious texts and seek meaning and symbolism from them
- Reflect - to reflect on feelings, relationships, experience, ultimate questions, beliefs and practices
- Empathy - to develop the power of imagination to identify feelings such as love, wonder, forgiveness and sorrow
- Apply - to explore connections between religions and individuals and the local and global community
- Discernment – to explain the significance of different aspects of religious belief and practice
- Analyse - to distinguish between opinion, belief and fact and the features of different religions
- Synthesise - to make connections between features of religions and explore the meaning of life
- Evaluate - to debate the ideas of religious significance and to consider their own views and the views of others

The teaching of RE also encourages the development of:

- Self-awareness
- Respect for all
- Open-mindedness
- Appreciation and wonder
- Critical awareness

RE is taught through blocked weeks of learning at the end of each term for the required time allocation. Creative approaches are used as tools for learning such as drama, art, music and dance. The children's RE books and learning journeys show a wide range of RE work.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The whole staff led by the subject leader, are responsible for monitoring the standard of the children's work. Assessment is completed at the end of each unit, which shows the children's progress over the six units. Each year data is put onto the school tracking system to show overall attainment and progress.

### **Reporting to Parents**

On an annual basis, teachers report to parents about the learning of RE for each child and at the end of the year, attainment and progress in RE is given to parents in an end of year profile.

### **The Right of Withdrawal from RE**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of Religious Education. This can be requested by writing a letter to the headteacher, who is happy to meet with you if you wish to discuss this further.

Subject Leader: Hazel Bell

Date: April 2020 (HB)

Next Review: November 2021 (HB)