

*'Caring, Curious and Confident'*

## Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School



### Curriculum Overview: Religious Education (RE)

Our curriculum approach to RE reflects our vision 'Caring, Curious and Confident'. In particular, we aim for pupils to develop curiosity in RE as well as providing opportunities to work co-operatively with others and become confident and resourceful learners.

#### Intent

We recognise that RE is unique and includes its own substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and skills. We are a six-class school and nursery, with mixed age classes. Due to demographic changes and unpredictable in-year admission numbers, our class structure is not guaranteed to be the same year after year. Therefore, we have sequenced the content of RE using a two year 'rolling programme' for each class which ensures that whatever path a pupil takes through the school, the National Curriculum content is covered. More importantly, our curriculum is a 'spiral curriculum' in which key concepts are presented repeatedly throughout the curriculum, but with deepening layers of complexity. These concepts are:

- **God**
- **Creation**
- **The Fall**
- **People of God**
- **Incarnation**
- **Gospel**
- **Salvation**
- **Kingdom of God**

'**Substantive**' knowledge' is carefully 'curated' and we use some 'Knowledge Organisers' in UKS2 to present this core knowledge. **Skills** are progressive and are entwined into the teaching of the core concepts throughout the school. We are also deepening our understanding of **disciplinary knowledge** for each subject so that concepts connected to a unit of work are revisited across the age ranges. By revisiting the concepts rather than the topics, we are able to embed knowledge and create connections with prior understanding, therefore making the learning 'sticky'.

In RE, knowledge and skills are taught through a variety of world religions, which are repeated for each pupil's journey through the school:

**KS1: Christianity and Judaism**

**KS2: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism**

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### **Implementation**

- We follow the Somerset SACRE approved 'Awareness, Mystery and Value' syllabus.
- Christianity units are taught using high quality planning from 'Understanding Christianity'.
- Each class is taught RE weekly, every half term throughout the academic year.
- High expectations and 'Cultural Capital' is gained by:
  - Using **high quality literature and texts** across the curriculum.
  - Valuing '**oracy**' and teaching high-level **vocabulary**.
  - Using '**authentic**' high quality resources.
  - Making links to '**Primary Futures**' which shows children how what they are learning at school can lead to an interesting, exciting future, job or career.
- Teachers use 'Assessment for Learning' strategies including 'fast feedback' and the 'Teacher Assessment Record' to check learners' understanding systematically, identify misconceptions accurately and provide clear, direct feedback.
- In RE we develop sticky knowledge by:
  - Building opportunities for retrieval practice within the topic E.g Through low stakes mini-quizzes, use of flash cards, multiple choice questions or short 'Q and A' activities.
  - Using 'Flashbacks' to retrieve knowledge and skills from last week, last term and last year.
  - Using knowledge organisers in UKS2.
  - Integrating new knowledge into larger key concepts.

### **Curriculum balance and time**

- As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School, Christianity will be the majority religion studied and will include at least 50% of Religious Education curriculum time. Dedicated weekly lessons, in classes, will work on explicit objectives. This will aim to be close to 10% but will be no less than 5% in both Key Stages 1 and 2.

### **Impact**

- In RE we want learners to develop detailed knowledge and skills and as a result, achieve well. This will be reflected in the pupils' RE books, class discussions and quiz / assessment results. We want children to be able to talk confidently about what they have learned and how this is connected to other units of work they have been taught.
- The Subject Leader uses a range of tools to evaluate the RE curriculum including end of unit assessments, staff and pupil interviews. They will ask:
  - Is the curriculum working- what do assessments tell me? Are children progressing?
  - What impact is the curriculum having? If children are not progressing, is my subject sequenced correctly? Are layers of learning there? Are we revisiting things enough? Is teacher subject knowledge good enough? Are we meeting the needs of SEND pupils?
  - What can/cannot children do? What have they learned/not learned? How do I know?
  - What is this telling me about the organisation and sequence of the DT curriculum?

**Reviewed by Hannah van Cole (July 2021)**