

Intent:

At Chantry Community Primary School, we believe that it is important for all our pupils to learn from and about religion, so that they can understand the world around them. The aim of Religious Education in our school is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain; to appreciate the way religious beliefs shape life and behaviour; develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Religious Education is taught throughout the school using the Kent School syllabus, 2022-2027 using the scheme Discovery R.E.

R.E. plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas, particularly PSHE, in promoting social awareness and understanding in our children. We encourage our pupils, from EYFS to Year 6, to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. We include and promote British Values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens.

Our curriculum is designed to encourage creativity, imagination, enquiry, debate, discussion and independence. Our key focus throughout Religious Education is to:

- Engage pupils in enquiring into and exploring questions arising from the study of religion, faith and belief, so as to promote their personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Provide our pupils with the knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religious faiths, traditions and beliefs represented in Great Britain and the wider world.
- Develop our pupils' understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people's behaviour, practices and outlook.
- Enable our pupils to develop a positive attitude towards people who hold religious beliefs different from their own.
- Enable our pupils to apply the insights of the principal religious faiths and traditions to their own search for identity and significance.
- Enable our pupils to become aware of their own beliefs and values and to have a positive attitude to the search for meaning and purpose in life.

Implementation:

In using Discovery R.E., we follow their planning from EYFS, through KS1 and KS2. This includes looking at a range of faiths, and discussing why people have a faith, and others might not. There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds and beliefs and values of the children and the staff. We value the religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made, between home, school and a faith community. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for staff and children.

Religious Education is taught on a weekly basis in each year group but is also delivered to further enrich their understanding of a religious tradition or festivals throughout the year. Lessons are planned, taking the learning intentions from the Progression Map and following the guidance from Discovery RE. Lessons are delivered in a variety of ways so that all children can participate fully. Interactive, practical activities linked to the themes in the syllabus, and other subjects where appropriate, encourage our pupils to discuss their ideas and extend their understanding of difficult concepts and challenging questions.

Impact:

The children at Chantry Community Primary School enjoy learning about other religions and why people choose, or choose not to, follow a religion. They are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. This helps them to develop an understanding of people's cultures and ways of life awareness and understanding of religions and beliefs, teachings, practices and forms of expression. The pupils at Chantry are able to:

- Reflect on, consider, analyse, interpret and evaluate issues of truth, belief, faith and ethics and communicate their responses.
- Have opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development
- Develop a preparedness for life in a multi-cultural global society where they can exist in harmony with others and live life to the full.

At Chantry Community Primary School, we give the children the opportunity to:

- Consider their own thoughts and opinions on the challenging questions of the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs in God, their own self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human;
- Understand the influence of religion on individuals, families, communities and cultures
- Learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while exploring questions of meaning and own beliefs
- Learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed responses to religious, moral and social issues
- Develop their sense of identity and belonging in the world, preparing them for life as citizens in a multi-cultural global society
- Develop respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different to their own.

Pupils' progress in Religious Education is based on the expected outcomes outlined in the scheme of Discovery RE, which have been developed in line with guidance produced nationally.

- These outcomes form the basis of our school assessment system which has the performance objective for each year group
- Pupils are assessed regularly and their progress is monitored against these objectives

Useful Websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmyb4wx>