



Westfield Infant School Spotlight on Religious Education



What is Religious Education and how is it taught?

At Westfield Infant School we follow the agreed RE syllabus as well as Understanding Christianity to enable all pupils to have a clear understanding of the BIG picture of Christianity running through their learning. Systematic units of work about Christians, Jews and Muslims lead into thematic units, where children can make some comparisons between beliefs including non-religious world views at the end of each year.

The curriculum is designed in a spiral format where pupils can revise and revisit religions and build upon their previous knowledge showing progression of skills. They can make links between the thematic units and systematic themes. The 'Understanding Christianity' resource supports the systematic themes and key concepts which all pupils will visit and revisit in their school years.

RE is taught in each year group once a week by the class teacher.

How do we support all learners to access the subject?

The spiral curriculum is repetitive teaching of key concepts and gives the opportunity for pupils to revisit and reinforce key vocabulary in their learning as well as apply it to their understanding. Teachers are encouraged to use tools such as mini quiz's multiple choice and mind mapping to recall prior knowledge.

Lessons involve plenty of discussion and interactive teaching including lots of cross curricular links. We also actively encourage children to share their own experiences and faiths within the class.

Children with SEND and EAL are supported in lessons by being provided appropriate resources and quality first teaching to enable them to access the learning. Key vocabulary is an integral part of each lesson and is used frequently throughout each lesson.

How do we assess the children's knowledge and understanding in this subject?

We keep evidence of the pupils work to show what they have been learning. This is displayed in a floor book for each class and includes photos, children's comments and any work they have completed in each lesson. We observe lessons throughout the year, gathering pupils voice about the subject. End of unit quizzes are also used to gather pupil's knowledge and used to inform future learning.

How do we involve parents and carers in this subject?

The pupils learning in Religious Education is shared with parent/carers through updates on Class Dojo. The floor books are also available during Pupil Progress evenings for Parent/carers to look at. Parent/carers are also able to view our RE Progression Overview via the school website.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all pupils to take part in Religious Education lessons. However, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education if they wish. Parents/Carers can request that a pupil be wholly or partly excused from Religious Education. Parents/Carers are not obliged to state their reasons for seeking withdrawal; they are made aware of the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE and that it is relevant to all pupils, respecting their own personal beliefs.

How do we promote wider opportunities for this subject area?

Each year group has the opportunity to visit a place of worship linked to the faith they are learning about. This includes a local church, synagogue and mosque. Visitors are also invited into our school to reinforce the learning that has happened in the classroom. We aim to provide access to good quality resources that support the pupils learning and provide them with opportunities to explore real life objects and materials linked to their learning.