



What RE looks like at St James' CE Primary School

Intent	<p>What we are aiming for in RE:</p> <p>At St James' CE Primary we follow the Agreed Syllabus for Beds Borough, Central Beds and Luton. This syllabus states the aim of this syllabus as:</p> <p>The principal aim of RE is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.</p> <p>RE aims to deepen pupils' knowledge about religions and to develop their religious literacy. Pupils encounter core concepts in religions and beliefs, improving their understanding and their ability to explore these key concepts. Our approach sets the context for open investigation of diverse religious traditions as well as non-religious world views. Our curriculum is designed to encourage creativity, imagination, inquiry, debate, discussion and independence.</p> <p>Underpinning the teaching of RE lies our school vision 'In faith, we flourish and grow'. This is rooted in the Parable of the Mustard Seed, we describe our school as a garden where everyone can flourish in their own unique way. Our vision works along side our strong Christian Values of Respect, Love, Empathy, Hope, Resilience and Curiosity.</p>
Implementation	<p>What RE looks like in our school:</p> <p>The Beds Borough Agreed Syllabus for R.E forms the basis of our curriculum. The syllabus is designed to support schools in developing and delivering excellence in R.E. This is achieved through thematic units which either study one religion or follow an aspect of religion; comparing religions, beliefs and practices studied. This teaching and learning approach has 3 core elements which are woven together to provide breadth and balance within teaching and learning about religions and beliefs.</p> <p>Each RE unit is built around these core elements which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Making sense of beliefs and ideas – understanding what these core religious and non-religious beliefs mean within their traditions.- Making connections – establishing relationships between these beliefs and the pupil's own lives and ways of understanding the world.- Understanding the impact – In this element, pupils examine how and why people put their beliefs into action within their everyday lives, their communities and in their wider world. <p>Lessons encourage children to discover for themselves aspects of different religions and beliefs, to discuss these in depth through respectful debate and then to form opinions of their own. Teachers are encouraged to use creative techniques to support learning for example: through drama, art, poetry etc. In addition to RE lessons, children experience visits to places of worship in the local community and experience visits from other local Church leaders. They are also given opportunities to celebrate key Christian festivals in our local Church with special services at Harvest, Christmas and Easter.</p>

Impact

What the results will be:

As a result, the children at St James' CE Primary extend their knowledge and understanding of religions and world views, recognising their local, national and global contexts. They become encouraged to be curious and ask increasingly challenging questions regarding religion, faith, values and human life. Pupils learn to express their own ideas in response to the material they engage with and are able to give their own coherent reasons to support their ideas and views. Through their R.E. learning, pupils are given the opportunity to wonder about the world, explore connections between beliefs and practices studied and can reflect about life in the world today.