

Religious Education – Intent, Implementation and Impact

“Religion is the clearest telescope through which we can behold the beauties of creation.”

William Scott Downey

Religious Education - Intent

Our Religious Education lessons are intended to offer a broad and rich Religious Education curriculum that has been developed using the Cumbria Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) to allow for a variety of ways to explore religions, their community and personal development and wellbeing through **theological**, **philosophical** and **human science** lenses. The lessons have an intention of providing a high quality, coherent and progressive experience of the subject, with scope for cross-curricular learning. Through each theme, children will know about and understand a range of religions and world views. They will be able to identify, investigate and respond to a variety of issues. SMSC, personal growth and community cohesion are featured throughout and are there to ensure opportunities for children to develop positive attitudes and values and to reflect on and relate their learning in Religious Education to their own experiences. Through an enquiry-based approach, the intent is to make sure that children understand the relevance of religion in today's modern world and how it affects our lives.

Religious Education – Implementation

We have designed our curriculum to ensure our learners are offered a broad range of religions to study. We have planned lessons around specific religions for each year group, expanding their knowledge and understanding as they progress through the year groups. In KS1, children concentrate on specific aspects of many different religions, such as celebrations and rituals, rather than specific religions themselves. In KS2 children begin to look at specific religions such as Christianity, Judaism and Hinduism in lower KS2, gaining a deeper understanding of the origin of those religions and their key stories and teachings. As children progress through the school they continually revisit the Golden Threads of 'Celebration' and 'Worship' to develop an excellent understanding of how they look and feel for different people who follow different faiths. Throughout both key stages, emphasis on personal growth and community cohesion is evident, allowing for personal development for the children from KS1 to the end of KS2. Finally, Religious Education is bolstered by events, trips and visits throughout the curriculum such as Christmas carol

services, the Thwaites School Holi Festival and visits to places of worship including churches and temples.

Religious Education - Impact

We believe that the impact of our Religious Education curriculum will be that children to have a better understanding of the religions that make up the United Kingdom landscape and how they can learn from and work alongside each other to create community cohesion. All children will be more informed about their position in the world, and the decisions they can make impacting their future. Thwaites School children will be able to talk confidently about their wellbeing, moral and cultural development for the society in which they live. The Religious Education curriculum will promote inquisitive minds, respect, tolerance and understanding for all those around them including themselves. Our curriculum enables high-quality work to be produced and evidenced, showcasing a deep understanding of the main religions of the world, their community and their future. This evidence will be seen through using the correct vocabulary, explanations and respectful opinions, as well as cross-curricular evidence, for example religious and cultural art work, Holi Festival music and presentations. Impact will be seen by all teachers and children enjoying the experience of teaching and learning Religious Education and understanding how it can help them in their future.

