

RE Subject Statement

Intent

At Edenham CofE Primary School we instil a love of RE by ensuring it is relatable to the children's own lives. Linking taught skills and knowledge allows children to apply their learning to everyday life and their own personal experiences. Using this key knowledge informed by the National Curriculum, children are able to develop their understanding aiding them to reach phase 'end points' in accordance with National Curriculum expectations.

We teach children the importance of key religious beliefs with regards to how different people around the world worship God and understand the world. By using key individuals within each religion, we teach children the importance of those who have come before us and the impact a single person can have on the world, inspiring those children we are teaching. We enable children to discover how others choose to live their lives, the way in which they act and what is important to them, giving them the confidence to become more philosophical and critical about how they live their own lives but also developing an appreciation and respect for others.

By teaching in this way, it will enable the children to develop knowledge and empathy towards the beliefs and cultures of global citizens and appreciate what they believe about God and the world around them. In doing this, we are preparing children for their next step in their lives, helping them become well rounded citizens.

Implementation

At Edenham, RE begins right from the start of a child's primary education. Children have a weekly RE lesson over one afternoon, allowing them time to develop their religious knowledge and skills but also to build upon their prior knowledge. Within the Early Years Foundation. RE is taught across a two-year cycle using the Lincolnshire Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and Understanding Christianity in line with the National Curriculum ensuring children progress their knowledge and understanding throughout their Primary Education. RE is taught in a block unit within a term to allow suitable links to be made to specific religious festivals taking place or to link in with other topics being taught.

Children are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about different religions during each phase. EYFs focuses on Christianity, KS1 carry on this learning journey whilst also introducing Islam whilst Hinduism and Judaism are then introduced within KS2. Each unit of work identifies prior learning and the builds upon this. Children gain a deeper understanding of the religion studied through the use of high-quality resources/artefacts. Children can discuss and compare the lives of people they have studied from a variety of different religions and also make links with their own life experiences.

We begin each new unit by introducing a focus question. By using questions within our curriculum, it allows children to apply their knowledge and to reflect on their learning. We also use this question as an assessment tool by revisiting at the end of a unit to see what new knowledge and understanding the children have gained. Within each unit, the children have the opportunity to become philosophical thinkers by applying their knowledge to answer questions that are linked into the unit's learning.

RE at Edenham Primary works alongside the SMSC links and British Values implemented within school as a whole. Collective Worship take place across the whole school and in classes; these are delivered by our Head of School, class teachers, our local vicar and our Bishop's Visitor. Visits to places of worship, and visitors representing different religions provide a variety of first-hand experiences for our children, to spark their interest and relate new learning to their own experience.

Impact

The way in which we teach RE at Edenham Primary School allows the children to progress their understanding of Religion and the various beliefs held by the religions covered within their primary education. Our RE curriculum encourages our children to be philosophical and critical thinkers and to respect the beliefs held by others.

Children at Edenham Primary School will:

- Demonstrate a positive attitude towards people of any religion and show an understanding of cultural beliefs different to their own.
- Demonstrate respectful behaviour to all and transfer this to outside of school to the wider community and beyond.
- Be able to answer philosophical questions using their religious understanding to back up their ideas.
- A rich vocabulary that will enable all children to articulate their understanding of taught concepts.
- Achieve age related expectations in RE at the end of each phase.