

## **STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **Religious Education Policy**



Stedham Primary School recognises the need for working as a unit to provide RE which promotes the pupils search and understanding of a system of values within a caring and supportive environment.

Pupils will learn about Christianity as the main religious tradition in this country but also about the teaching and practices of some of the other principal world religions represented in this country. We consider the introduction of both Christian ideas and other World Religions are both very important due to the fact that Britain today is very much a multicultural society and that by the very nature of our catchment area it is vital the children develop a broader outlook on the world.

We believe Religious Education to have a distinctive character. It makes its own contribution to the school curriculum in terms of knowledge, concepts, skills and attitudes, as well as sharing common ground with other subjects in contributing to spiritual, moral, cultural and moral development of pupils and preparing them for adult life. Religious Education is concerned to promote the children's search for values, meaning and purpose.

#### **AIMS**

The aim of Religious Education is to help pupils

- Acquire a knowledge and understanding of the origins, content and development of the Christian religion and of other religions, their traditions and beliefs; along side other world views.
- Understand the importance of religious experience and recognise the ways by which these experiences have been interpreted and expressed through a variety of religious traditions;
- Appreciate the contribution that religious and spiritual ideas and concepts can make to their personal search for meaning and purpose in life, enabling them to develop their own spiritual values;
- Identify areas of similarity as well as difference between the major world religions;
- Look beyond self and recognise the contribution of religion in the establishment of relationships and responsibilities in the family, among friends, in schools, the community and the world at large;
- Explore the consequences of religious belief; experience and values in the development of personal attitudes.
- Develop a positive attitude towards other people, respecting their right to hold beliefs different from their own, and towards living in a society of diverse religions.

#### **1. OBJECTIVES**

With reference to the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus, the general objectives for Key Stage 1 and 2 are to enable pupils:

- to know about and understand a range of religions and world views
- to express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religious and world views
- to gain and deploy the skills needed to engage purposefully with religions and world views

## 2. TEACHING AND LEARNING

The teaching of RE across the Key Stages is planned and recognised by the whole staff to ensure that the WSCC Agreed Syllabus is adhered to and taught according to the statutory requirements, providing non-denominational teaching for all registered pupils.

Teachers will use a variety of different teaching styles to enable all children to have the opportunity to access the RE curriculum as stated in the WSCC Agreed Syllabus .

### **PROMOTING PUPILS' SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:**

Religious Education at Stedham Primary School provides opportunities for:

***Spiritual development***, through helping pupils consider and respond to questions of meaning and purpose in life, and questions about the nature and values in human society.;

***Moral development***, through helping pupils consider and respond to areas of morality using their knowledge and understanding of religious and ethical teachings. This enables them to make reasoned and informed judgements on religious and moral issues;

***Social development***, through helping pupils develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for life as citizens in a multicultural society;

***Cultural development***, through fostering pupils' awareness and understanding in a range of beliefs, practices and values in their own society and in the wider world. Pupils explore within and between faiths, developing their understanding of the cultural contexts within which they live.

At Stedham Primary we understand that it is not the task of the teacher of RE to indoctrinate or persuade any child to accept a particular faith or belief system and it is expected that all teachers must adhere to this at all times.

Children whose parents so wish can withdraw them from the RE lessons.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus for RE (2020-25)

Date Reviewed: November 2022

Date of Next Review: Autumn 2025