Religious Education Curriculum Rationale

“Religious education (RE) should make a major contribution to the education of children and young people. At its best, it is intellectually challenging and personally enriching. It helps young people develop beliefs and values, and promotes the virtues of respect and empathy, which are important in our diverse society. It fosters civilised debate and reasoned argument, and helps pupils to understand the place of religion and belief in the modern world.”

Ofsted

RE Intent

At Glusburn School, we want children to explore challenging questions that focus on: meaning and purpose in life, beliefs about God, ultimate reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

How is the RE curriculum implemented?

Children experience weekly RE lessons, this allows them sufficient time to become fluent in their knowledge and skills, and recalls will ensure this is embedded in their long term memory.

We follow North Yorkshire’s ‘Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education’. We introduce knowledge of religions in a thought out sequence of topics that examine beliefs and their impact on the many areas of life; family, worship, customs.

RE is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all Reception age pupils and is taught using the North Yorkshire ‘Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education’.

RE is non-statutory although teachers may wish to incorporate RE material into children’s activities if they choose to.

Our aim is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religions and world views address, so they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and understand why and how people live as they do and develop responses of their own.

How does RE reflect our school’s values and ethos?

The content of the curriculum reflects that the religious traditions in Britain are, in the main, Christian, but also that an understanding of key religions such as Islam and Judaism is essential in developing tolerance for and respectful recognition of different beliefs. (Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs).

How does the RE curriculum impact on children becoming well rounded citizens?

The children learn to reflect on their own and other’s beliefs and articulate their understanding with reasoned and balanced arguments.

How is RE assessed?

Each unit will begin by ascertaining the children’s prior knowledge and any connected knowledge held in their long term memory. Any misconceptions that arise throughout the unit are identified and addressed appropriately. Children continue to recall their knowledge throughout a unit in order to ensure an alteration in long term memory.

An end of topic assessment takes place approximately two weeks after the end of the topic. Two further recalls take place approximately six weeks and then twelve weeks later in order to ensure that the knowledge is embedded in the children’s long term memory.

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