

Religious Education at Whitehouse Primary School

At Whitehouse Primary School, we use the agreed Milton Keynes RE Syllabus as the basis for our curriculum. Religious Education has a significant role for the development for the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Children gain an understanding of learning about religion and learning from religion, by making links and comparing between *believing* in a faith, *belonging* to a faith and *behaving* in a way that is required by the teachings of different religions. The children will also have an opportunity to make their own responses and reflections based on what they have learned.



Our curriculum allows the children to acquire and deepen their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principle religions that are represented in Britain and the world. It also allows the children to grow a respectful, open-mindedness and positive attitude towards other people, which enables them to live in a diverse society. Religious education provokes challenging questions about the world around them by allowing them to gain high quality experiences.

Early Years Foundation Stage

At Whitehouse Primary School, the children will develop a positive sense of themselves and will learn how to have positive and respectful relationships. The children gain an understanding that we are all have similarities and differences to each other and amongst families, communities and traditions. They will achieve this by encountering religious and non-religious worldwide views through special people, books, places and objects. They will have opportunities to listen and talk about stories that are important to different people. In Early Years, the children will have the chance to ask questions and reflect on their own experiences, feelings and beliefs.



Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1, the children's knowledge and understanding are further developed. The focus will be mainly on Christianity and Judaism and referring to other faiths, particularly if there are members of other faiths in the class. The children will have an opportunity to learn about what the faiths believe, stories, celebrations and what symbols that express religious meaning. There will be opportunities for children to reflect upon their own beliefs and experiences based on their own beliefs, values and traditions.

Lower Key Stage 2

Building on KS1 knowledge of Christianity, the children will also be taught about Hinduism and Islam. The children will develop their skills, knowledge and understanding through deeper enquiry. The children will also have opportunities to further their understanding of any other religions that are believed in their class. The children will be encouraged to use their knowledge of religions taught in KS1 and will refer back to these to begin to make links or identify differences based on their new learning. The children will continue to have opportunities to share their personal experiences of religion.



Upper Key Stage 2

In UKS2, Children will deepen their understanding of the religions of Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. The children will consider the impact of beliefs and practices in greater detail and respond to more philosophical questions. They will be encouraged to make comparisons and links between what they have learned on all the religions taught in the previous key stages. There will be opportunities for the children to reflect, consider, analyse, interpret and evaluate issues of truth, belief, faith and ethics and to effectively communicate their responses.

Impact

As children progress through Whitehouse Primary School they will grow respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own. They will be encouraged to develop their own sense of identity and belonging. The children will be given the opportunity to flourish individually within their communities and as citizens in a diverse social and global community.



"When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts."

Dalai Lama