

**MELLERS PRIMARY SCHOOL
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY
JANUARY 2017**

Purpose of study

Mellers Primary School is made up of staff and pupils who originate from many nationalities, cultures and faith groups. As a school we aim to celebrate this diversity and offer a welcoming and inclusive environment for all our pupils. We believe that Religious Education provides an opportunity to celebrate and foster awareness of these differences within our school and the wider world. It is a subject that celebrates diversity and challenges stereotypes.

Religious Education is taught as part of a cross-curricular approach. Through this, we aim to promote the spiritual, moral, and cultural development of all pupils.

Religious Education is a compulsory subject and forms part of the national curriculum.

The overall aims are:

- That all children form their own opinions about religious beliefs and customs and that they develop an understanding and tolerance of people who hold a strong faith.
- That children enjoy learning about religion because it is taught in a stimulating and interesting way that arouses their curiosity and develops positive skills and attitudes.

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- That children develop a sense of awe and wonder about the world around them.
- To help pupils understand some of the impact of religion throughout the world, its influences on the lives of individuals and communities and its effect on the cultural diversity of their own and other societies both presently and in the past.
- To support pupils' spiritual, moral social and cultural development by encouraging self awareness and self-respect.
- To help pupils develop their social and moral development by encouraging a positive attitude and valuing the beliefs of others, however different from their own.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of Christian and other major religion in Britain as a whole and in the local community.

Teaching and Learning

We endeavour to draw on the varied experiences and backgrounds of our pupils and staff in order to make RE relevant and interesting to our pupils. Important festivals are celebrated from different religions within the school and wider community. These are often celebrated in whole school assemblies and during whole school topic days.

The children in the Foundation Stage are taught RE through the area of Understanding of The World- People and communities.

In KS1 and KS2 RE may be taught either discreetly or as part of a cross-curricular approach e.g. through PSHE, history, geography, art or as part of a focus day or period of time e.g. Christmas or Eid etc.

Equal Opportunities

Every child is entitled to be taught RE regardless of their age, culture, gender, background or special need or disability. RE develops a balanced view of the multi-cultural society which we live in without compromising the faith, non-faith or cultural background of any pupil. In accordance with the law we provide religious education for all pupils registered at the

school. Parents who choose to withdraw their children from Religious education lessons are required to meet and discuss this with the head teacher.

Assessment and Monitoring

The design and technology subject leader will collect selected examples of children's work and teachers' planning. The examples will be used for identifying progression and expectations. These will be kept in a subject co-ordinators photo folder as evidence. RE planning is collected for monitoring and a sample of books looked at regularly throughout the year. Evidence on children's learning is gathered mainly through observation, oral discussion, written tasks, drawing and planning.

Compiled by: G Atherton

Review date: