



HARROWBARROW SCHOOL

RE Curriculum Intent

Intent

At Harrowbarrow School, we aim to teach our pupils to be mindful, resilient, inquisitive learners that are self aware and respectful towards a variety of religions. In alignment with the Cornish Agreed Syllabus 2020-2025, we also aim for religious education taught at our school “to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live.” Because of this, it is hoped that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief. It is also aimed that this will then effectively allow them to reflect on their own values and the way that they choose to live.

By the end of primary school, it is intended that all children at Harrowbarrow School have developed religious literacy; effective, articulate dialogue and the ability to participate positively knowing that they will all be respected and valued. RE contributes to pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and ethical development. The ability to understand these moral and ethical issues, cultural influences and diversity enables pupils to be prepared for everyday life after primary school.

Implementation

As our pupils come from an area that is predominantly Christian, it is important that their learning is inclusive of both other religious and non- religious world views. They also need the opportunity to learn more about the religious, spiritual and cultural character of Cornwall and its rich heritage. The teaching of RE at Harrowbarrow School is taught using the Cornwall Agreed Syllabus (2020-2025). This syllabus is designed to develop and deliver excellence in RE throughout the whole school. It does this by studying one religion at a time in a systematic approach. Pupils encounter core concepts in religions and beliefs in a coherent way, developing their understanding and their ability to investigate questions, explore key concepts and encourage deeper understanding.

At Harrowbarrow School, we implement our Religious Education learning through an enquiry-based approach. Each year group has a different ‘Big Question’ linked to the religion they are studying that half term. Children are introduced to the ‘Big Question’ at the start of the term and are reminded of it at the beginning and end of each lesson allowing time to reflect on previous learning and discuss how their learning allows them opportunities to answer the question. Children then independently answer the ‘Big Question’ either verbally, with pieces of writing or by creating a poster or video to summarise their understanding and application of key vocabulary. These termly summative assessments are used to determine the children’s understanding and inform teacher’s planning and further differentiated support for pupils. This data is reviewed on a termly basis by the subject leader who also carries out learning walks and book scrutinies. Additionally, there are pupil conferencing and questionnaire opportunities for

children to feed back about what they feel they have learnt well, what they've enjoyed learning and areas that could be improved to provide better learning opportunities.

The religions that are covered within Harrowbarrow Primary School are: Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. In accordance with the Cornwall Agreed Syllabus, Christianity is taught every year for no less than 60% of RE curriculum time. Children in Upper Foundation Stage and KS1 receive 36 hours of RE teaching and learning a year. Children in KS2 receive 45 hours of RE teaching and learning a year. Children explore these religions by looking at and handling artefacts, exploring sacred texts, using drama and imaginative play to re-tell religious, spiritual or moral stories, using ICT, Art or D&T to explore and create.

Children also take part in several religious events throughout the year to build on their learning and knowledge. EYFS and KS1 perform the Nativity Story through a Christmas production and Key Stage 2 perform a Harvest Celebration for pupils, staff and parents. In each KS1 and KS2 class, each year, there will also be at least one event such as going to the church or having a religious speaker coming into school.

We value the religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community.

Impact

As a result of our RE Curriculum, all children have a better understanding of the religions in the United Kingdom and specifically in Cornwall. They appreciate and value the diversity of people's different backgrounds and beliefs, resulting in a common vision and a sense of belonging, which leads to greater community cohesion. They are able to talk confidently about the importance of contributing to the community and getting on with others. The children are more informed about their position in the world and they show a deeper understanding of the main religions, demonstrating respectful opinions and tolerance and an understanding of all those around them including themselves. They often recall key facts many years after they have been taught and recall memorable learning experiences, such as their participation in workshops. They speak enthusiastically about the activities that have taken place and what they have learnt. Lessons enable high quality work to be produced and there are many examples of the children applying their learning through cross-curricular links. All pupils, including disadvantaged and SEND pupils, successfully build upon information year after year to create a well rounded, thoughtful perspective of religions in our world today.