

Curriculum Leadership – Subject Vision

Subject / Curriculum Area: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

Vision

At Dover's Green we aim to deliver a rich, varied and engaging RE curriculum which ignites the imagination of children and gives them plenty to think about. RE helps children to find out about the world they live in and introduces them to some of the principal religions and current world views. They learn to use subject specific vocabulary, ask questions and begin to express their views in response to what they are taught. Above all we aim to help our children to become well informed and thoughtful citizens.

What does this subject area offer the Dovers children?

The opportunity to learn about different faiths, customs and festivals through a varied, creative and explorative approach. The chance to learn that within their own community and the wider world that people belong to different groups who may have different views and ideas to themselves but are all valued. RE encourages children to begin to make reasoned, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues.

How does this subject enhance the curriculum?

RE has strong links with PSHE and helps children to value themselves and others. It helps them develop an awareness of how religion contributes to other people's lives. It is a subject that allows children to discuss key moral and topical issues.

What use is it to children later in life?

RE aims to equip children with attitudes and skills which will help develop spiritual, moral and cultural development. It helps them to consider their own feelings and those of others. It helps them to see the world through the eyes of others and plays an important role in preparing them for adult life, employment and lifelong learning.

What are the main skills and knowledge (overarching objectives) you want focused on?

Children need to be able to:

- Begin to understand that people within our community have different cultural backgrounds and beliefs. These are celebrated in different ways.
- Develop their ability to compare different religious faiths, ideas and customs and be able to ask appropriate questions of them.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding about different religions, with the focus on Christianity, Islam and Judaism.
- To celebrate and explore different cultures, beliefs and values and to forge links with different groups in the local area.
- To explore their own beliefs and build a sense of identity and belonging.
- Teach children to develop respect for others including people with different faiths and beliefs and help them to challenge prejudice.

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Intent

What is being taught?

We aim to equip pupils with systematic knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and world views, enabling them to begin to develop their ideas, values and identities. We encourage children to engage in dialogue so they can participate positively in a diverse society. They learn to express their personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences while respecting that others may have differing views. We teach RE in EYFS and KS1 according to the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE.

How does it cater for PP/SEND and higher attainers?

SEND and PP children are pre-taught specific subject knowledge before a topic is taught. Taught in small groups with adult support. Variety of lesson approaches adopted to aid different types of learners e.g film, drama and visual prompts to support those who need it. Lesson content and child tasks are differentiated.

Implementation

During their time in EYFS children are taught about the Bible, Celebrations and Our School Community. They are given opportunities that encourage them to explore the world of Religion in terms of special people, books, times and objects starting with Christianity as the foundation faith. We are sympathetic to other religions and explore them when appropriate. Opportunities are given to listen to and talk about Bible stories and other stories from other religions and beliefs. Children are encouraged to reflect on their own feelings and experiences. They are encouraged to use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live. Therefore we teach RE in EYFS through a variety of child friendly, fun ways and it can be seen emerging through and across the areas of learning e.g circle times, story times, themes and discrete lessons.

By the end of the EYFS pupils will be expected

Talk about their own times of celebrations e.g Birthdays. Christmas and those special times celebrated by other people in their immediate community.

Talk about special places, books, objects and people.

Describe some special features of a special place or book.

Talk about the groups they belong to e.g Family, church, club.

Show a range of feelings in response to their own experiences.

During KS1 pupils are taught RE in blocked weeks during the 2 years. The time devoted to RE is 72 hours over this 2 year period. This approach allows coverage of the topics and allows continuity of learning and consolidation of concepts being taught throughout Year 1 and Year 2. Also teachers can evaluate what has been taught and make provision for revisiting topics at a later date. We aim to teach RE in a cross curricula manner as well as through discrete lessons. Lessons allow children to discuss topics using the Oracy framework and time is given for pupils to reflect on their learning. They are encouraged to give feedback to one another when appropriate.

YR1 RE TOPICS-

What do Christians believe God is like?

The importance of Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

Who is Jesus and why did he tell parables?

Judaism- What is the Torah and why do Jews celebrate Shabbat?

Why should we look after our world?

YR2 RE TOPICS-

Why is the Church and Bible important to Christians?

What does the Christmas Story tell us about Jesus? Why is Jesus the Saviour?

Importance of Prayer.

Why is Easter important to Christians?

What are the big questions? Topical issues.

ISLAM- Who is Allah and what is important to Muslim families.