Religious Education

Intent

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RE Intent and Implementation Statement

Religious Education (RE) is important at St Edmundsbury C of E Primary Academy. The aim of RE is to allow pupils to develop their 'religious literacy,' which can be defined as the ability to hold well-balanced and informed conversations about religion and belief from both religious and non-religious viewpoints.

RE is taught in line with our school vision of 'One Anothering' and as children talk about religion and faith, they do so with respect, aiming to 'encourage one another, and build each other up'.

Intent

Aims

RE at our school is taught in line with the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement for RE (2019). Through our curriculum, we aim for our pupils to:

- Know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs, using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews studied.
- Engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- Recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.
- Explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking.

Implementation

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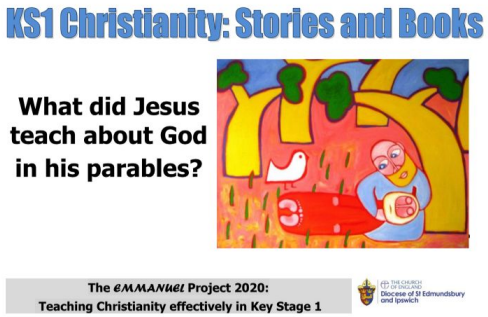

Implementation

We follow the Emmanuel Project 2020 - which fulfils the requirements of the latest Suffolk RE Syllabus; a mix of theology, philosophy and human social sciences.

We teach pupils about seven worldviews: Christianity, Hindu dharma, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism/ Sikhi and Humanism.

Our long-term plan for RE shows information about the order we teach the Emmanuel Project units.

Implementation

EYFS

In Early years, pupils are introduced to Christianity and have additional encounters with a further five worldviews.

KS1

As pupils move into key stage one, they enquire into concepts related to Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hindu dharma.

KS2

Moving into key stage two allows pupils to further develop their knowledge and understanding in the seven worldviews previously mentioned.

Implementation

How is RE taught?

- Across the school, RE is taught on a weekly basis, for one hour per week.
- In addition to the weekly teaching, pupils take part in activities designed to further develop their understanding of a religious tradition or festival such as Easter and Rosh Hashanah.
- The RE curriculum has been designed to meet the needs of all learners through adaptations of activities and varying levels of challenge or support.
- RE is challenging. A concept cracking approach is used to allow theological concepts to be 'cracked open' in ways pupils can understand - based on their own experience.
- RE is delivered through an enquiry cycle, focused on a key question. Teachers will use a range of different creative approaches such as art, music, discussion and drama.
- Themes of salvation, devotion and incarnation are woven throughout the scheme of work. (The syllabus is planned with a thematic approach covering concepts such as incarnation, devotion and salvation)

Implementation

- Big questions are explored to allow pupils to link their learning across different worldviews and to explore their own thoughts, reflections and responses to their learning. The 'Big Questions' cover one unit in EYFS, two in KS1 and three in KS2 to demonstrate the increasing complexity of thinking as children progress through the school.
- Knowledge and understanding in RE is developed as pupils progress through the school. Key vocabulary is selected from each Emmanuel Project unit, revisited and extended as pupils progress through the year groups. Pupils will think with increasing depth about the concepts they have learnt and the impact on their own lives.
- Pupils will have access to religious artefacts and suitable resources, to support them in their learning.
- ***It is important to note that parent(s)/carer(s) have the right to request that their child be excused from all or part of the Religious Education provided at school. However, if they do request this, a full discussion with the RE lead and/or SLT will be required in order to explore their reasons and request alternative work to be provided by the family for this time.***

Implementation

Assessment and Monitoring

- At St Edmundsbury C of E Academy, RE is assessed through discussions, carefully planned questioning (whole school) and written work (in KS2). We use assessment for learning and in the moment feedback to support children with their learning.
- RE is monitored through pupil perceptions and lesson observations.
- RE training is provided at least annually, to ensure all staff have appropriate subject knowledge.
- Each class has a large floor book to record whole class activities, discussion notes and photos. The children enjoy helping to make these and like looking back at their prior learning.