

GRANGEFIELD SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Religious Education co-ordinator – Kate Bennett

Strategic Management

INTRODUCTION

The staff and governors of Grangefield School believe that religious education has a vital part to play in the general development of each child and in the development of the overall ethos of the school.

Religious Education is concerned with:

- developing knowledge, understanding and awareness of Christianity and other principle religions whilst also considering the views of those without a faith.
- encouraging respect for those holding different views
- promoting spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus is adhered to by all staff.

Staff and governors at the school will respect the legal right of parents to withdraw their children from RE. Parents should inform the Head Teacher if they wish to withdraw their child. They need not give any reason. Alternative arrangements will be made to ensure the welfare of those children during the time RE is taught. Staff also have the option to withdraw from teaching RE, in this case alternative arrangements will be made.

This policy is subject to annual review.

AIMS

- To contribute to the general personal, spiritual, social and cultural development of every child in line with the overall aims of the school.
- For pupils to develop positive attitudes towards themselves and other people and the natural world.
- All relevant child welfare policies will be adhered to.

ROLE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR

- Arrange resources
- Oversee the policy
- Update equipment within budget allowed
- Ensure there is sufficient equipment and stock to allow effective delivery of the RE curriculum
- Make staff aware of relevant courses
- Identify and organise relevant support for staff
- Support and advise subject planning
- Liaise with governors curriculum sub-committee
- Liaise with the Head Teacher and keep her advised of developments within the subject area

Curriculum Organisation

The school adheres to the Religious Education in Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus 2011 - 2016. In line with legal requirements, teachers will devote the majority of time to content relating to Christianity. Other religions will be introduced and discussed as well as introducing the opinions of those who do not have a belief.

Pupils will experience teaching:

- that stresses the links between content in religious education and challenges in every day life
- that is inclusive, so that all can benefit educationally, irrespective of their own unique background
- that includes imaginative activities – including story, drama and art
- that makes regular use of visits and visitors from local churches and other faith communities

RE is planned annually, half-termly and weekly. The RE co-ordinator is available to help with planning. The scheme of work assists the planning. The school will complete end of unit assessments to help with planning and monitoring children's progress.

Equal Opportunities

The school believes that all children should have total access to the curriculum. The class/subject teacher has the responsibility of providing suitably differentiated work, which will challenge the children at their individual ability level. If necessary advice will be sought from outside agencies to achieve this aim.

Curriculum Administration

While recognising the separate nature of RE and collective worship teachers will, on occasion, draw upon the work in RE as part of worship.

Pupils will visit some local churches and other places of worship during their time at school. The conduct of these trips will be in compliance with the LA guidance on school visits.

Pupils will participate in short meditation sessions once a week, to allow time for personal thought and raise spiritual awareness.

The teaching of RE will use artefacts where possible.

RE has a role to play in multicultural education and in exploring the attitudes towards the roles of men and women.

The RE co-ordinator monitors the outcomes by the work displayed in the classrooms and by knowledge of the annual plan and the scheme of work. The school will use the completed assessment grids to ensure progression throughout the school and to assist with planning and setting targets.

Resource Management – Human

The RE co-ordinator will discuss training needs with individual members of staff. These needs will be met in consultation with the school staff development officer and subject to budget constraints and priorities as identified in the School Improvement Plan. Staff will be notified about any relevant courses.

The RE co-ordinator is available for advice, consultation and demonstration. Where a member of staff lacks the skills or confidence to deliver the subject appropriate support will be given.

Resource Management – Physical

Resources are in the bookcase near the ICT suite. Resources will be returned to their designated storage area as soon as they are finished with.

Health and Safety

Staff will follow the school health and safety policy.

ASSESSING, RECORDING AND REPORTING

RE is assessed for the individual pupil. Class records are kept to ensure access and opportunity for all pupils. Items of individual pupil's work can be located in Humanities books and displayed on the walls. These are kept by all staff and used for assessment purposes.

Parents will be given an annual written report indicating their child's understanding and progress in RE.

To be reviewed – July 2016