



St Peter's Methodist Primary School

RE Policy

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Agreed at Pupil and Curriculum Committee:

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Religious Education Policy

Religious education at St. Peter's asks about meaning and purpose in life from beginning to end. It gives space for individual reflection and wondering who and why; it explores Christianity, other principal religions and world views, and how they affect personal and social life.

Legal requirements

R.E. at St. Peter's Methodist Primary school is provided in line with and meets statutory requirements, which are that:

- the curriculum for every maintained school shall comprise a basic curriculum which includes provision for religious education for all pupils registered at the school
- the RE programme must reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are, in the main, Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain.
- the RE provided shall be in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus for Kent (amended 2012).

Aims

- We aim to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship through the teaching of R.E. by exploring issues within and across faiths.
- Pupils who follow the RE programme in our school gain a deep knowledge and understanding of the teachings, practices and life stories expressed in a variety of ways within Christianity and other principal religions and world views.
- Through reflection on their own beliefs and values in the light of their learning, they grow in respect for themselves and others.

School context

At St. Peter's Methodist Primary, we work to the Kent Agreed Syllabus for R.E. and recognise the variety of religious and non-religious families from which our pupils come. We are sensitive to the home background of each child and work to ensure that all pupils feel and are included in our R.E. programme. We are pleased to have the support of members of local faith communities; we have good working relationships with them and encourage

them to make positive contributions when appropriate. We recognise the importance of pupils' all-round personal development and the leading role that R.E. plays in contributing to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural elements in particular.

Teaching and Learning

Planning in R.E. is based on the two Attainment Targets in the Kent Agreed syllabus:

AT 1 Learning *about* religions

AT 2 Learning *from* religions

Learning *about* religion includes enquiry into and investigation of the nature of religion, its key beliefs and teaching and the varying ways in which these are expressed. It also includes the skills of interpretation, analysis and explanation. Pupils learn to communicate their knowledge and understanding using specialist vocabulary. It also includes identifying and developing an understanding of ultimate questions.

Learning *from* religion is concerned with developing pupils' reflection on and response to their own experiences of religion. It develops pupils' skills of application, interpretation and evaluation of what they learn about religion, particularly to questions of identity, belonging, meaning and purpose.

We use art, drama, ICT, speaking and listening activities, audio-visual materials, posters, photographs, display work and visitors/visits to/from faith communities to deliver the curriculum.

School specific information

- At St. Peter's , the subject leader for R.E. is Mrs. Brenda Naden and she is responsible for leading, managing and monitoring all aspects of the subject to secure high standards of attainment and achievement in RE.
- The subject leader is also responsible for supporting all colleagues who teach R.E., for example, through provision of advice and guidance on teaching and learning strategies. She is also responsible for ensuring their continuing professional development, particularly to the acquisition of the necessary subject knowledge and understanding, to teach RE effectively.
- A detailed scheme of work, based on the agreed syllabus is available for teachers and other interested parties.

- At St. Peter's, planning is supported by the Canterbury Diocese Unit plans, from EYFS to Year 6.
- The time allocation follows the recommendation of the agreed syllabus and R.E. has a time-tabled weekly session in each class.
- Visits – our pupils are regular visitors to St. Peter's Methodist Church, adjacent to the school, including attending a weekly act of Collective worship and for major Christian festival services. The Methodist Minister is a school visitor as are ministers/clergy from other churches in the town. Pupils also visit Canterbury Cathedral for special services.

Assessment

Assessment opportunities are identified on the R.E. plans. We assess each term and record each child as 'Working towards, working at, or working above expected steps.

We report on pupils' progress and attainment in RE to parents.

Withdrawal

We acknowledge the rights of parents to withdraw their child(ren) from R.E. and those of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject. We aim to provide an open and inclusive curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all teachers.