Religion and Worldviews Statement at Ashton Gate Primary School 2023-2024

Intent

It is our intention to develop children's curiosity about the world through their learning experiences about religion and other world views. In Religion and Worldviews we aim to give children an understanding of Christianity and other major faiths as well as non religious world views. We teach R & W in order to give our pupils valuable insights into the diverse beliefs and opinions held by people today to promote tolerance and understanding. Our R & W curriculum is designed to help the children with their own personal development and we want our children to identify and value the things we have in common across cultural, religious and ethnic groups.

As the children progress through the school they will encounter different religions and worldviews. In Key Stage One, children will encounter Christianity, Judaism and Islam. In Key Stage Two, children will revisit these religions, but also encounter Hinduism and non-religious views, such as Humanism. Our curriculum follows the 'Awareness, Mystery, Value' syllabus which has been agreed for Bristol.

Implementation

How do we teach Religion and Worldviews?

Children aim to answer a 'big question' through following an enquiry over a term. This will involve learning about what a faith might say, investigating it further and analysing. Finally, children will reflect on what they might feel is their personal response to the big question.

We aim for pupils to:

- Reflect and interpret different cultures and religions and how people live their lives.
- Understand the importance tolerance plays in the wider world.
- Give children the opportunity for expression, discussion and debate.
- Investigation, asking relevant questions; and knowing how to use a variety of sources in order to gather information; knowing what may count as good evidence in understanding religion(s).
- Developing Synthesis by linking significant features of religion(s) together in a coherent pattern; and connecting different aspects of life into a meaningful whole.
- Application, making links between religion and individual, community, national and international life;
 identifying key religious values and their links with secular values.

We achieve this through a focus on:

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- Teaching three units of Religion and Worldviews over the year.
- · A progressive curriculum which builds on prior knowledge.
- Provide cross-curricula links in children's learning for example through Art, Geography or English.
- Enrich children's experience of R & W through using artefacts of going on class visits i.e temples/churches/mosques. Guest speakers from the Islamic and Humanist centre.
- Improving confidence and subject knowledge in staff.
- Each unit will end with a final assessment piece which will help to inform the teachers' judgement when completing the end of term assessments.

Impact

The enquiry based approach to Religion and Worldviews enables the children to develop their curiosity about our world and where they can ask 'big questions' to further develop their thirst for knowledge. R & W teaches them about diversity and tolerance towards others which is essential in promoting positive members of our society. The pupils are able reflect about their own perspective on life and their own beliefs as they continue on their learning journey to develop their knowledge of different people's faiths, feelings and values.