

Horton Lodge Special School

'Working Hand in Hand to Achieve Potential'



Religious Education Policy Summary

Date: November 2023



Religious Education at Horton Lodge

Introduction

As a maintained school in Staffordshire we are required to follow the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and therefore much of this policy is based around the vision and aims of the agreed policy with an understanding that it will be delivered to our children “as far as practicable” which could be as simple as **engaging** with sensory stories to our more formal learners having opportunity to both **explore** and **reflect** on views about their own faith and that of others.

Vision and Aims:

The vision for Religious Education (RE) in Staffordshire’s Agreed Syllabus 2023 is as follows: -

The role of RE in schools is to help prepare and equip all pupils for life and citizenship in today’s diverse and plural Britain, through fostering in each pupil an increasing awareness of, and sensitivity within, the diversity of religious and non-religious beliefs, practices, spiritual insights and world views (the way our children experience and respond to the world) they will encounter.

The Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus seeks to achieve this vision through following three specific themes.

EXPLORE	<p><i>1. An increasing core of insightful knowledge concerning religion(s), beliefs and world views, both in Britain and in more global terms.</i></p> <p>By exploring religious beliefs, teachings and practices – so acquiring knowledge and understanding of religious stories, sacred texts, lifestyles, rituals, and symbolism that offer an insight into religious and secular experiences.</p>
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ENGAGE	<p><i>2. A developing capacity to engage with ultimate questions alongside the consideration of the responses from religious and non-religious groups and world views and to formulate their own sense of identity and values.</i></p> <p>By engaging with fundamental questions – so appreciating the human and religious questions that are raised by life and it’s experiences, and through which meaning, significance and values are forged, and by expressing and evaluating their personal responses to such questions – so gaining skills to be</p>
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	able to relate the issues studied and discussed, to their own experience.
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REFLECT	<p><i>3. A growing range of the social, spiritual, and emotional skills and dispositions appropriate to living well in a religiously plural and open society.</i></p> <p>By reflecting on the reality of religious diversity and on the issues raised by living in a diverse world – so developing skills of analysis and discernment in relation to prejudice, discrimination, and bias, together with the skills of self-awareness, moral judgement, and responsible choice.</p>
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In addition, each RE theme will have one of the following foci:

1. Beliefs, Teachings and Sources
2. Practices and Ways of Life
3. Expressing Meaning
4. Identity, Diversity and Belonging
5. Meaning, Purpose and Truth
6. Values and Commitment

The Horton Lodge RE Curriculum :

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic Year 23-24	People	Hanukah and Harvest	Plants	School	Water
RE focus	Belonging	Celebrations	Caring for the Natural World	Helping others Showing kindness and goodness	Answers
Topic Year 24-25	Food	Advent and Sukkot	Saving our Planet	Special Places	International
RE focus	Worship and Ceremonies	Belonging to a group	Caring for creation Caring	Special places, Festivals and belonging	Worship
Topic Year 26-27	Animals	Christmas and Diwali	Weather	Homes	Journeys
RE focus	Valuing new life	Birth of Jesus Celebrations	Easter Celebrations Story Telling through sacred writings	Belonging Families	Relationships, promises and weddings Celebrations,

