



Nettleham CE (Aided) Junior School Religious Education Policy



For all of us at Nettleham Church of England Aided Junior School the teaching, learning, attitudes and wellbeing of all our children are important. As a Christian school we believe that everyone should feel wonderful, amazing, loved, valued and unique, because God made us that way. We encourage all our children to achieve the highest possible standards and develop their skills to become lifelong learners.

In our school Religious Education is delivered in line with the County Agreed Syllabus, also referring to Guidance from the Lincoln Diocese with regard to R.E, as well as incorporating the Understanding Christianity resources

AIMS

The central aims of Religious Education in our school are to help children to:

- Develop in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity, its impact on our local community and its impact on society today;
- Grow in their spiritual development through reflection on their feelings and relationships;
- Develop skills and attitudes which will support our children in their personal, moral and social development and relationships;
- Grow in their cultural development through thinking about their beliefs and values in the light of the beliefs and values of others including religious traditions and the values of family, school and wider community;
- Explore some important questions of meaning and consider how the world's religions have responded to them;
- Develop the ability to evaluate their learning and experience in Religious Education;
- Develop in their knowledge and understanding of other principal religions, the children will study the following world religions in every year group as a spiral curriculum: Christianity, Islam and Hinduism as well as touching on elements of Humanism and non-religious world views particularly higher up in the school.

SCHEME OF WORK

The Nettleham Junior Scheme of Work for R.E., comprehensively covers all aspects of the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus.

It aims to develop learning about and from religion in a progressive way, differentiating learning and allowing for individual teachers to tailor work according to the needs of their children. The children will revisit beliefs and practices as they travel through the school to deepen their understanding, knowledge and understanding of the impact of these.

WHAT DOES GOOD RE LOOK LIKE AT OUR SCHOOL?

- Good RE is a balance of theology, philosophy and social science. These need to be equally balanced. It can be described as a 3 –legged stool upon which children grow into adults who can learn to talk, teach and learn from each other. This is what we want as our outcome.

- Children need to learn foundational beliefs, examine where these ideas come from, understand the role of tradition within religion and explore reliability and authority of sources. They need to see how these ideas shape the world and that people can see these differently. ***This is THEOLOGY.***
- Humans need to ask questions and explore thinking about good/evil. They need opportunities to engage with the world and make judgements. They need to explore morality which will help them discuss the religious experiences of others. ***This is PHILOSOPHY.***
- Finally, children need to understand and learn about the lived and diverse reality of religions and worldviews. They need to explore how these views and beliefs impact individuals/communities and societies. ***This is SOCIAL SCIENCE.***
- *So, in order for RE to be a strong 3 –legged stool with substantive knowledge being delivered appropriately and personal knowledge being utilised and developed, these are some ways we can achieve this in our lessons and curriculum:*
 - Role play/drama, music, food, sensory experiences, cross-curricular, real people- use human, resources/visitors/experts, creativity, interactive, debates, inclusion, learning outside the classroom, differentiation- make sure learning is it is accessible to all, start from where they are, let the children lead where appropriate, thinking prompts, engaging text- holy texts/poems/stories/testimonies/metaphors/allegories, use of film etc...

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

We believe that Religious Education has a major contribution to make to the learning of children especially in terms of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Much of the work begins with children’s own experiences and emphasises how special and unique they are.

Important skills that we seek to develop include:

- Reflection;
- Empathy (to begin to understand thoughts, feelings and other people’s points of view);
- Investigation and Comprehension;
- Analysis and interpretation;
- Communication (through art, music, movement, speaking/discussion/drama/writing).

Important attitudes that we seek to foster include:

- Sensitivity;
- Respect;
- Open-mindedness;
- Critical awareness;
- Tolerance;
- Self-esteem.

ASSESSMENT

Broad assessment of children’s learning follows the Statements of Attainment set out in the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus. The children currently use ‘3B assessment sheets’, this is also informed by marking, observation, discussion and retrieval practice. The children also carry out self-assessments of their own knowledge and learning at the beginning and end of each unit using snowflake charts.

The progress of all children is reported to Parents through Parent Consultation evenings and

Nettleham Junior School – Religious Education Policy
through the Annual Report in the Summer Term.

RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Religious Education is a legal requirement and the subject is one of five Core elements in the National Curriculum.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Religious Education on the grounds of conscience. We strongly encourage parents to contact the Headteacher if they have any concerns about the policy, provision and practice of Religious Education.

School staff also have the legal right to withdraw from the teaching of R.E. on the grounds of conscience. Nevertheless the legal requirement that all children will receive Religious Education, according to the School R.E. Policy, will be met.

THE R.E. SUBJECT TEAM

The R.E. Subject Team will assist colleagues to:

- Deliver Religious Education in accordance with the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus through the Nettleham Junior Scheme of Work;
- Facilitate the use of a wide range of resources;
- Remain up to date regarding any changes in this subject area.

CONCLUSION

We believe that Religious Education should be an integral part of school life and the curriculum. We aim to help children to develop a mature sense of self-worth and value, to develop respect and sensitivity for all people and to understand more of the importance of religion in today's world.

Last reviewed: April 2024

Next review due: April 2026