

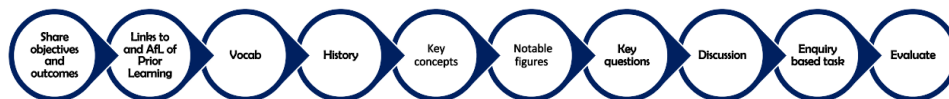


Religious Education at Heathfield

Intent

The principle aim of Religious Education at Heathfield is for all children to gain knowledge and understanding of different beliefs, values and principle religions represented in Great Britain and within the local area they live in. We want children at Heathfield to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape lives and behaviours and give them the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. We include and promote British values, ensuring that children are aware of their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens. At Heathfield, we encourage and promote social awareness and understanding in our children and have links with the local community to allow children to draw and develop on their own personal experiences.

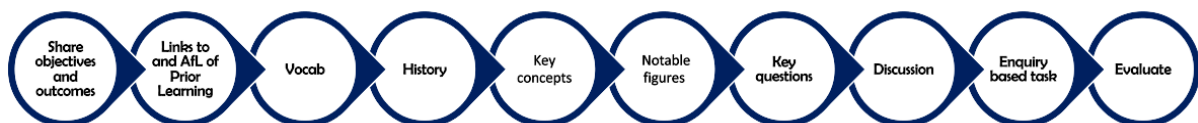
Implementation



We follow the [Discovery RE scheme of work](#) from EYFS to year 6 which teaches the following principle religions:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- Sikhism

Each RE unit follows the same sequence of learning to ensure the coverage of key elements:



At Heathfield, we also consult the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education that is developed by Nottinghamshire County Council alongside Discovery RE. The principle religions are taught on a 2 year cycle that supports the mixed age classes at Heathfield and allows for detailed coverage and progression in each year group. The principle religions are covered in equal weighting so that no singular religion is taught more heavily than another. External contributors from the community, e.g. local clergy, local members/speakers from other religions etc make a valuable contribution to the RE programme at Heathfield as do visits to places of worship which are linked to The Heathfield Pledge.

We have adopted an enquiry-based approach, where each lesson begins with an opportunity for children to make links with their own life experiences before making links with religion. Religious

Education is also a cross curricular subject that is not only taught in specific RE sessions, but is lined to SMSC, PHSE and British Values throughout the curriculum.

SEND Provision and differentiation

Discovery RE is written as a universal core curriculum provision for all children. Inclusivity is part of its philosophy. Teachers are able to tailor each enquiry to meet the needs of the children in their classes. To support this differentiation, many enquiries suggest creative learning activities that allow children to choose the media with which they work and give them scope to work to their full potential. There are a range of questions available to allow those deeper thinkers

Assessment

At Heathfield we use our school foundation assessment tracker to monitor the progress of RE. This is teacher assessed twice a year and is linked to the learning objectives in each year group. Through monitoring, subject leaders can monitor the impact, gap analysis and extra provision required for each year group or vulnerable groups.

Withdrawal from RE lessons

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Religious Education lessons. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the head teacher and/or RE Leader who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. The school will ensure that parents who want to withdraw their children from RE are aware of the RE syllabus and that it is relevant to all pupils and respects their own personal beliefs. Parents will be made aware of the learning objectives and what is covered in the RE curriculum and should be given the opportunity to discuss this, if they wish.

Impact

The teaching of Religious Education at Heathfield is to ensure the following:

- children are able to make links between their own lives and those of others within their local community and the wider world as well as have a deep understanding of different cultures and beliefs.
- children ask challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, and issues of right and wrong, commitment and belonging.
- children are encouraged to explore their own beliefs (religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of religious belief and faith and how these impact on personal, institutional and social ethics; and to express their responses.
- children are able to build their sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society.
- children develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice.
- children consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.
- development of a sense of awe, wonder and mystery
- nurturing of children's own spiritual development.

How the Heathfield Pledge is delivered through RE

Happy, safe and confident

Children share their beliefs and listen to the beliefs of others in an environment that is safe and free from criticism. Children feel confident to share their opinions with their peers and are happy to learn about the traditions celebrated by others.

Eager to learn

Religious education gives children at Heathfield the opportunity to learn about the different religions in their local community and celebrate many different traditions. Children are eager to learn about different religions.

Aiming high

Through questioning and investigation, children are encouraged to aim high and develop their understanding through using religious and philosophical terminology and concepts to explain religions and beliefs.

Taking care

Taking care of others – At Heathfield there is a strong sense of taking care of others in the local community. Every harvest festival, the school makes a generous donation to the local foodbank. The foodbank come and collect the food from the school during a harvest celebration assembly.

Healthy attitudes

A healthy attitude to Religious Education is encouraged throughout the school by celebrating many different religions and being understanding of other people's religious beliefs. Children are encouraged to share their own religions in a safe and trusting environment.

Focused on enrichment

Strong links have been made with the local church and children in KS1 and KS2 have made visits to the local church for Christingle celebrations. Whole school assemblies have also been delivered for Diwali, Eid, Harvest Festivals, Easter and Christmas.

Including everyone

All children are included in the teaching of Religious Education at Heathfield. All children are included in whole school religious celebrations, regardless of their own religion or beliefs. This promotes a healthy attitude.

Environmentally aware

Children are aware of the local area that they live in through visits to local places of worship or religious whole school celebrations. Children are encouraged to learn about their local community and understand that many different religions are represented in Bulwell.

Living in harmony

Through British Values, we are encouraging all children to be respectful of the beliefs and values of others. This encourages a harmonious relationship between all children

Developing global citizens

Through celebrating the diversity within our school, children are aware of different religious festivals and traditions that are celebrated throughout the world. This is especially celebrated through Global day, MFL day and internationalism throughout the school.

How does RE link to other subjects?

RE is a cross-curricular subject that easily lends itself to other areas of the curriculum that are taught at Heathfield.

Geography – Where in the world are different religions found?

History- Looking at the history of the 6 main religions that are taught at Heathfield.

PSHE- Linking religious stories and festivals, exploring the different beliefs of different religions.

English – Longer pieces of writing retelling religious stories. This can also be linked to T4W in KS1.

Computing – Children can design posters or leaflets for the local community celebrating religious festivals.

Music- Listening to and appraising hymns.

What can RE inspire children to be in the future?

Through the teaching and learning of RE, children are developing their skills to be global citizens who are respectful of the local community that they live in. Learning about RE is a transferable skill that can apply to many careers as it teaches children to be empathetic to others and supportive of their religious beliefs. Children will take into adulthood the understanding of the main religions in the UK and use this knowledge in their workplaces.

Children may also think about becoming teachers of RE in secondary or higher education institutes as well as supporting local religious charities through fundraising and PR.