



Inspiring a love for lifelong learning

Religious Education Intent, Implementation and Impact Overview

At Ashford Park Primary School, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum in an innovative and exciting way. Our school vision of 'inspiring a love for life-long learning' is intrinsic to the purpose and design of our Religious Education curriculum: to develop reflective, respectful and inquisitive learners.

Intent

As a school who has, after much research and consideration, adopted the Discovery RE Curriculum, we plan, deliver and review RE learning in line with the Discovery ethos and our own steadfast intention that every child receives high-quality RE lessons:

'The Religious Education curriculum at APPS is designed with the belief that by following an enquiry-based model, children's critical thinking skills are developed, their motivation to learn is increased and their knowledge and understanding of, and empathy with, people and their beliefs, religious or otherwise, is enhanced. This approach takes very seriously the philosophy that children are free to make their own choices and decisions concerning religion and belief. Our RE lessons do not try to persuade but rather to inform pupils and develop the skills with which evaluation can take place.' RE at APPS consistently reflects our core values particularly providing our children with a sense of belonging whilst building resilience and developing compassion for all.

At APPS, we have 'community' and 'spirit' at the heart of our RE learning. This ethos is intertwined with the inner fabric of our school. With community as a driving force, our learners use this as their starting point to engage with religious education. Regardless of religious belief, culture, languages spoken or country of origin, the children are provided with a common ground to begin their RE learning journey. This is with the intention of uniting our wonderfully diverse cohort of children, with acceptance and a deep understanding of the main six world religions. The intent is that the children will be well-informed and provided with the tools to develop the skills with which evaluation can take place. Each year group will learn about a different place of worship, representing different religions throughout the school so that pupils' minds are opened and horizons are broadened. We choose respect and inclusion over tolerance. The year group can choose to visit the place of worship or invite a representative of the religion to visit pupils at school.



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Implementation

Our Religious Education curriculum is implemented through six sessions planned for each half term. These lessons utilise a progressive approach using carefully chosen activities. Our children are provided with opportunities to learn independently, in pairs and in groups. A varied learning approach builds resilience and develops children's respect for one another.

Our RE lessons follow the following format:

Lesson 1 – Engagement

Lesson 2, 3 and 4 – Investigation

Lesson 5 – Evaluation

Lesson 6 – Expression

The investigation sessions are taught in a block to ensure that the children are given every opportunity to develop their enquiry and investigative skills. Learning is assessed during the evaluation stage; children can self-assess their acquisition of knowledge using resources provided in the Discovery RE folders adapted to suit our teaching of Religious Education at APPS. We are a research-informed school and therefore plan individual lessons in line with Rosenshine's Principles, supported by adaptive teaching strategies to ensure that all learners are valued and make strong progress through their learning journeys at APPS. To support our own professional learning and development, we ensure that our teaching strategies and approaches are evidence-based so that our pupils receive the highest quality teaching and learning in every lesson. We believe that every child will succeed and therefore ensure that we maintain high expectations for all pupils, scaffolding and challenging individuals where required.

Impact

At APPS, through our Religious Education curriculum, we successfully nurture children who become independent learners, problem solvers and creative thinkers. The impact of our enquiry-led teaching strategies ensures that our pupils can think critically and are highly motivated to learn. This is demonstrated through our children being empathetic and compassionate human beings. At APPS, our children know they belong within our highly regarded school community and learn of their importance in the wider world. Furthermore, they leave APPS with the self-belief,



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knowledge and skills to make their own opinions, choices and decisions concerning religions and beliefs having grown into reflective, respectful and inquisitive global citizens.