



Religious Education



Intent

At Harbinger, we are very proud of our diverse and multi-cultural community. We see Religious Education as a vitally important element of children's learning. By following the SACRE guidance it enables them to relate to the traditions and beliefs of others, while developing their religious literacy. Being members of a diverse society they learn from religion that they are able to make informed decisions about how they want to live their lives whilst also understanding more about the faith of people in the wider society.

As an academic subject, it develops the critical thinking skills and understanding that is essential in modern society to develop respect for others. Our curriculum is designed to use creativity, imagination, discussion, debate and enquiry. Pupils will develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues. Our intent is that our pupils become accepting, resilient and inquisitive learners.



SEND Provision

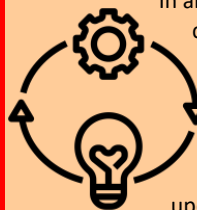
To ensure that all children can engage in RE lessons, teachers will use a range of strategies to teach key concepts. Children who are working significantly below age-related expectations in writing may be asked to explain their learning verbally or draw pictures. For some children with specific educational needs will complete activities relating to events in their living memory, using photos to help children to develop a sense of their own personal beliefs and experiences. It is also important that cross curricular opportunities are used such as role play, expressing ideas through art and opportunities to use their oracy skills to communicate ideas.



Enrichment

Assemblies take place across the whole school and in classes; these are delivered by senior leaders, class teachers and our local vicar. Visits to places of worship, and visitors representing different religions provide a variety of first-hand experiences for our children, to spark their interest and relate new learning to their own experience. Whole school projects/competitions are used to celebrate festival in the community and engage RE learning at home.

Implementation



In all year groups, children will study at least three new RE units a year. Our RE curriculum provides children with enquiry opportunities to find out about, and understand, a range of religions and world views. We follow the SACRE planning which is adapted to cater for the children at Harbinger. During each Key Stage, pupils are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about Christianity, Islam and Judaism through KS1, adding Hinduism, and Humanism in KS2. Each unit of work identifies prior learning and shows how this is built upon.

RE is taught in a block unit within a term to allow suitable links to be made to specific religious festivals taking place. The following skills are used, in order to strengthen the skills and deepen the understanding and knowledge taught: investigating, reflecting, recalling and retelling, exploring, discussing and empathizing.

Assessment

Throughout each unit of work, teachers will use quizzes, class discussions and the work which children produce in their books to assess children's understanding of key concepts. Teachers will then adapt their planning to address any misconceptions and gaps in knowledge. Pupils' achievements will be weighed up by teachers using success criteria arising from the program of study.

Monitoring

The RE Lead and SLT team will assess the teaching and learning of RE in line with the school development plan and the expectations of our curriculum intent. Monitoring will take place in the following ways, including: work scrutinies, planning scrutinies, lesson observations & pupil conferencing

CPD

Continued professional development is ensured through feedback and support given by the subject leader and by the SLT. Staff meetings led by the subject leader are opportunities to develop whole school understanding of how RE should be consistently taught and are opportunities for feedback and discussion to further develop the teaching of RE.

Cross Curricular links

Throughout the RE curriculum, oracy skills are further developed as children engage with each other through talk as they collaborate to discuss new concepts. Children also complete writing tasks to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in RE, and teachers maintain high expectations of the writing which children produce in RE lessons. Computing links provide children with the opportunity to explore religious sources, gather information and present their findings virtually. Art is also an integral part of how children express and communicate their learning.

Impact



Through the design of our curriculum, children at Harbinger will have a broad and balanced understanding and awareness of the world around them. Children will acknowledge the diversity, religions and beliefs of their local community, and know their own value in adding to this.

Children will be confident in discussing enquiry questions and know how to be respectful as a listener. They will be sensitive to the views and beliefs of others, and know that religious education has an impact on society. They will know that they are in a community where their own thoughts, views and beliefs are valued and are safe to be shared.

Our children will leave school with a strong sense of belonging, with the confidence and skills to make decisions, to self-evaluate, and to continue to ask important questions.

