**Religious Education**

At Hollinsclough Church of England Academy, our curriculum has been designed to ensure each and every child can ‘live life in all its fullness’ by offering stimulating and awe inspiring learning experiences  with Christian values and the Fruits of the Spirit at  its heart. We aim to deliver a curriculum that provides our children with rich knowledge and skills. It gives them the opportunities to develop into well rounded individuals  ready for each stage in their learning journey.

**Intent**

We value Religious Education as a key part of our curriculum. In our church school, respect is an overarching value and key to all we do. RE is a good platform for developing this as well as our whole school vision, guiding children in the importance of showing respect to all regardless of their beliefs and traditions. This helps to prepare them to challenge prejudice and promote tolerance in our multi-cultural society. Children are encouraged to explore their own beliefs, sharing their own thoughts and ideas and asking questions in a safe environment where they know they will not be judged.

Pupils will gain religious literacy: the knowledge and understanding of different religions, spiritual insights and secular world views. They will have the opportunity to explore how people from different beliefs approach the answers to ethical questions and reflect on their own ideas on these questions.

We aim to:

* Develop pupils’ skills and knowledge of Christianity and some of the other faiths around us in the world
* Enable them to ask questions, engaging them in exploring questions that arise from the study of religion and belief, to promote their personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
* Provide pupils with knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions and beliefs from around Great Britain and the world.
* Develop pupils’ understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook.
* Enable pupils to become aware of their own beliefs and values and to respect those of others, who may have differing beliefs.

**Implementation**

Legal requirements for Religious Education:

Religious Education is a statutory subject of the curriculum for all pupils in each year group and ‘should be provided for all registered pupils except those withdrawn at the request of their parents.’ (s 71 SSFA 1998)

Parents have the right to request that their son or daughter be excused from all or part of the RE provided at school.

The syllabus should ‘reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.’ (s375 (3) Education Act 1996)

Religious Education is taught on a weekly basis; lessons are planned and delivered in a variety of ways ensuring that all children can access and participate in lessons. Interactive, practical activities encourage the children to discuss their ideas and extend their understanding of difficult concepts and challenging questions.

Teaching and learning in RE is based on the expected outcomes outlined in the Lichfield Syllabus and in Understanding Christianity - making sense of the text, understanding the impact, and making connections.

Progress in RE is reported annually to parents as part of the annual parent report.

**Impact**

Religious Education at Hollinsclough develops pupils’:

* knowledge and understanding of, and their ability to respond to, Christianity, other principal world religions, other religious traditions and world views
* understanding and respect for different religions, beliefs, values and traditions (including ethical life stances), through exploring issues within and between faiths
* understanding of the influence of faith and belief on individuals, societies, communities and cultures
* skills of enquiry and response through the use of religious vocabulary, questioning and empathy
* skills of reflection, expression, application, analysis and evaluation of beliefs, values and practices, and the communication of personal responses to these.

Religious Education at Hollinsclough Academy encourages pupils to:

* consider challenging questions of the meaning and purpose of life; beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human
* understand the influence of religion on individuals, families, communities and cultures
* learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while exploring questions of meaning and their own beliefs
* learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling them to make reasoned and informed responses to religious, moral and social issues
* develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for life as citizens in a global society
* respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own.