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### Religious Education Curriculum

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to let you know about an update to the Religious Education (RE) curriculum that we teach at our school. Since September, we have been following the new Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, which reflects national developments in RE and has been designed to support pupils in understanding the diverse world in which they live.

#### **What is Religious Education?**

RE remains a statutory subject and plays an important role in helping children develop respect, curiosity, and understanding of different beliefs, values, and ways of life. It is not about telling pupils what to believe. Instead, it encourages thoughtful discussion, critical thinking and reflection.

#### **What is a “worldviews approach”?**

The new syllabus uses what is called a *worldviews approach*. This means that RE looks at how people understand the world and make meaning in their lives. Worldviews can be religious (such as Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism) or non-religious (such as Humanism or other philosophical perspectives).

Rather than studying religions as fixed or isolated systems, pupils learn that:

- People within the same religion may believe and practise in different ways
- Beliefs are shaped by culture, family, history and personal experience
- Everyone has a worldview, including those who do not follow a religion

#### **What will pupils learn?**

Through the Gloucestershire syllabus, pupils will:

- Learn about a range of religious and non-religious worldviews
- Explore key ideas, stories, practices and values
- Ask thoughtful questions and consider different viewpoints
- Develop skills of respect, empathy and dialogue

Teaching is age-appropriate and carefully planned to reflect the local, national and global context.

#### **Why is this important?**

In a diverse and changing society, understanding different worldviews helps children to:

- Build respect for others
- Challenge stereotypes and misunderstandings
- Develop their own ideas and values thoughtfully

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If you would like more information about the RE curriculum or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We value your support and partnership in your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

K Adams

Mrs Adams (Federation RE Lead)

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