

**Driffield Church of England
(VC) Infant School**



'Learn to let your light shine'

Matthew 5:14-16

Religion and Worldviews Policy

January 2024

School Vision

“Let your light shine!” (Matthew 5: 14-16)

This quote taken from the words of Jesus at the Sermon on the Mount, underpins our vision to work to support all pupils and staff to flourish and excel in their aspirations. We welcome all God’s children and their families into our Driffield Infant School Community. A place where children and adults of all faiths and none, flourish and are inspired by the Christian character and values of our school and learn to love God, one another and themselves (Mark 12:30-31) in order that they can ‘Live Life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10).

We do this through:

- ✓ Embedding our Christian Values; Friendship, Peace, Respect, Perseverance, Creativity and Honesty throughout school life;
- ✓ Acknowledging that both academic achievement and social and emotional development and well-being are intrinsically linked and equally well supported;
- ✓ An engaging curriculum both indoors and out that fosters a delight and wonder in learning ensuring that all pupils(and adults) have the skills and wisdom for life-long learning;
- ✓ Being a beacon in the community through strong partnerships with others;

Legal Requirement

Every maintained school in England must provide a basic curriculum which includes provision for Religion and Worldviews for all registered pupils at the school, except for those withdrawn by their parents in accordance with *Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998* and the *Church of England Statement of Entitlement*. All pupils are entitled to receive Religion and Worldviews as part of a broad and balanced curriculum at school, which promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Religion and Worldviews is provided as part of the school’s basic curriculum, following the locally agreed syllabus (***Hull and East Riding Agreed Syllabus for Religion and Worldviews 2022***). Schools must ensure that a sufficient amount of time is given to the teaching of Religion and Worldviews to fulfil the requirements of the locally agreed syllabus (SACRE recommends a minimum of 60 minutes a week for Early Years and KS1). As a Voluntary Controlled school, Religion and Worldviews is regarded as a core subject. Christianity is the principal religion taught (2/3rds) with other religions and worldviews addressed (Buddhism and Environmentalism). An annual report is given to parents/carers giving brief particulars of progress and achievements in all subjects including Religion and Worldviews.

Intent

In Religion and Worldviews, we want our children to:

- become religiously literate and hold balanced and well-informed conversations about religion and worldviews
- know about and understand Christianity as a living faith that influences the lives of people worldwide and explore core beliefs
- know and understand about other major world religions and worldviews
- develop their spiritual and philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own beliefs and values
- engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience

The contribution of Religion and Worldviews to the overall child

- **successful learners** who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- **confident individuals** who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- **responsible citizens** who make a positive contribution to society

Planning

Early Years Foundation Stage – The teaching of Religion and Worldviews forms part of the Early Years curriculum, in line with the Development Matters statements 2020. Religion and Worldviews skills are covered through free play activities, circle times, visits to religious places and religious stories. A selection of religious festivals and themes are explored by the children, such as, Harvest, Easter, The Church and The Buddha. The children explore key Christian concepts using the ‘Understanding Christianity’ resource and ‘The Puddles’ big book series. Children are provided with opportunities to explore the Christian faith and learn about aspects of other world religions and worldviews in a respectful manner.

Years 1 and 2 – The medium plan for Religion and Worldviews is predominantly based on the Hull and East Riding Agreed Syllabus for Religion and Worldviews 2022. In addition, the children learn about the key Christian concepts of God, Creation, Incarnation, Gospel and Salvation through the resource, ‘Understanding Christianity’. Religion and Worldviews is taught through three mutually supportive disciplines, which help to give a balanced approach to teaching and learning:-

- **Theology** is about believing. It looks at where beliefs come from, how they have changed over time, how they are applied differently in different contexts and how they relate to each other.
- **Philosophy** is about thinking. It is about finding out how and whether things make sense. It deals with questions of morality and ethics. It takes seriously the nature of reality, knowledge and existence.
- **Social Sciences** is about living. It explores the diverse ways in which people practise their beliefs. It engages with the impact of beliefs on individuals, communities and societies.

Pupils will study Christianity for approximately 2/3rds of Religion and Worldviews teaching time. Buddhism and Environmentalism will be explored for approximately 1/3rd of Religion and Worldviews teaching time. Through enquiry-based learning, pupils will have the opportunity to explore, compare and contrast the beliefs and practises of different religions and worldviews. Generally, Religion and Worldviews is taught as a weekly lesson. All teachers are aware that Religion and Worldviews is to be taught for 36 hours per year (equivalent to 60 minutes per week).

Whole School Religion and Worldviews Days – Generally, each term the whole school takes part in an enquiry based Religion and Worldviews day/week overseen by the RE Co-ordinator. These tend to run on a 2 year rolling programme:

Whole School Religion and Worldviews Events

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
FS/Y1/Y2	Harvest – in church		Environmentalism Project - 2 Weeks	Y2 visit Buddhist Centre	Pentecost- in church	Meditation and Mindfulness Workshop

FS/Y1/Y2			Environmentalism Project - 2 Weeks	Y2 visit Buddhist Centre Easter – in church	Vesak Festival	Meditation and Mindfulness Workshop
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The objectives for the Religion and Worldviews day/week are taken from the Hull and East Riding Agreed Syllabus for Religion and Worldviews 2022. The children experience Religion and Worldviews first hand and are given time to reflect on what they are learning. The Christian workshops take place in All Saints' Church, Driffield and the Y2 Buddhist Workshop takes place at The Buddhist Centre, Pocklington.

Resources

(See the Religion and Worldviews Co-ordinator for a list of resources.) Driffield Junior School kindly allow us to borrow Buddhist resources when needed.

Enrichment Opportunities

Where possible, children should experience first-hand what they learn about in the classroom. Visitors to the school to enhance Religion and Worldviews teaching and learning are strongly encouraged. Teachers are urged to organise out-of-school visits for the children to enhance their learning, particularly to places of worship. **All Saints Church and The Buddhist Centre** are a valuable resource for the teaching of Religion and Worldviews. 'Virtual' visits to places of worship are also available on www.request.org.uk.

Assessment

In Foundation Stage, evidence of a child's knowledge and understanding in this area of learning is recorded as an observation on an ipad. The teacher uses the information to make judgements as to whether the child is making expected progress in the area entitled 'Understanding the World' (Development matters 2020). In the summer term, the teacher decides whether or not a child has achieved the ELG for 'People, Culture and Communities'.

In Years 1 and 2 the key assessment objectives are identified for each unit of work. The teacher decides whether a child is working at 'age expected', 'working above' or 'working below', based on observations, discussions and 'work' produced. The teacher records his/her judgements on the end of unit assessment sheets. The RE results are recorded on Scholarpack. The RE Co-ordinator is responsible for analysing the data, sharing results and producing an action plan for the following year.

Foundation Stage keep evidence of Religion and Worldviews work in the form of a whole class big book. Children's work, photographs and verbal responses are recorded in the whole class book. Year 1 and 2 children record their work in individual Religion and Worldviews books to show progression throughout the year. Also, Year 1 and 2 classes keep a whole class big book to store photographic evidence and children's verbal responses.

Expectations

At the end of Foundation Stage -

Children are expected to achieve the Early Learning Goal for 'People and Communities'.

At the end of KS1 -

Children are expected to achieve 'expected' for Religion and Worldviews and some children will have progressed to 'above'.

Roles and Responsibilities

The role of the Head teacher

To ensure that the statutory requirements are covered

To discuss curriculum delivery with the Religion and Worldviews Subject Leader

To ensure the implementation of the Religion and Worldviews policy and scheme of work

To keep the Religion and Worldviews Subject Leader and other staff up-to-date on recent relevant changes in government policy.

The role of the Subject Leader

To review and update the Religion and Worldviews policy

To implement the school's Religion and Worldviews policy and scheme of work, ensuring that an engaging, high-quality Religion and Worldviews curriculum is being delivered throughout the school

To offer support in the teaching and learning, planning, and pupils' work in Religion and Worldviews

To ensure that the teaching of Religion and Worldviews is fully inclusive

To attend appropriate courses that will enhance the Subject Leader's role and Religion and Worldviews in the school generally, as well as informing other staff of INSET opportunities and arranging/delivering INSET within the school

To extend and update resources as and when necessary, in line with the school's budget arrangements and ensure resources are accessible and well-maintained

To support staff in planning a range of enrichment opportunities in Religion and Worldviews – whole school Religion and Worldviews Days, visits and inviting visitors into school

The role of the Class Teacher

To implement the school's Religion and Worldviews policy and scheme of work, teaching an engaging, high-quality Religion and Worldviews curriculum, which follows the legal requirements

To follow school planning and assessment procedures

To plan for a range of abilities and ensure that the teaching of Religion and Worldviews is fully inclusive

To report annually to parents about progress and achievement in Religion and Worldviews

The role of Governors

Governing bodies must ensure that Religion and Worldviews is provided as part of the school's basic curriculum, following the appropriate syllabus.

Monitoring

The Religion and Worldviews Co-ordinator is responsible for monitoring the planning, teaching and assessment of Religion and Worldviews. Also, the subject leader will carry out pupil voice with groups of children and analyse the Religion and Worldviews outcomes at the end of the year. The school receives support from the Diocese on a regular basis. Reports are shared at least annually with the Governing Body.

Inclusion

In planning for and organising Religion and Worldviews activities, teachers take a differentiated approach to ensure equality of opportunity for all children, including those with SEN, EAL, those who are Gifted and Talented and those from all religious and cultural backgrounds.

Withdrawal

The parents of a pupil at Drifffield Church of England (VC) School may request that they be excused from all or part of the Religion and Worldviews provided. However, the school is obliged to ensure that parents who wish to withdraw their children from Religion and Worldviews are aware of its intent and what is covered in

the Religion and Worldviews curriculum and that they are given the opportunity to discuss this if they wish. It should be made clear whether the withdrawal is from the whole Religion and Worldviews curriculum or specific parts of it. No reasons need be given.

The Religion and Worldviews Policy will be reviewed in 3 years (Jan 2027).