



## Religious Education Policy

**Policy approved and adopted:** March 2018

**Review date:** March 2021

### Aims of RE at Cove Junior School

Religious Education (RE) is taught across all year groups as part of our broad and balanced curriculum. The aim of RE is to allow children to explore alternative viewpoints and cultures and to develop an understanding of world religions, including Christianity. The children are encouraged to discuss, question and reflect on different world views, exploring how they relate to their own culture and beliefs. The RE syllabus supports the development of pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. Our aim is to equip pupils with the tools they need to thrive in an ever changing, multicultural society.

### The Living Difference III

The 1998 education act required Local Authorities to devise their own Agreed Syllabus for schools to implement. At Cove Junior School, we follow the Living Difference III, the agreed syllabus for Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. The Living Difference is a concept led syllabus which puts enquiry at the heart of the learning. The Syllabus is based upon exploring and understanding key concepts within the major religions and non-religious beliefs in the United Kingdom. As the children explore the cycle of enquiry, they are asked to reflect on the concept and link it to their personal experiences and beliefs.

### **Each unit of work is based on an A, B or C Concept:**

**A:** Concepts which are common to all human experience (religious and non-religious), for example celebrating, remembering or belonging.

**B:** Concepts which are shared by many religions, such as God, worship or pilgrimage.

**C:** Concepts which are particular to specific religions, for example Trinity, Karma or Umma.

The Living Difference outlines a cycle of enquiry which the children progress through in each unit. The concept covered is constantly revisited throughout. The cycle includes five steps: **Communicate, Apply, Enquire, Contextualise and Evaluate.**

**Communicate:** where the children explore what they believe the concept is

**Apply:** where the child explores their beliefs and values and how it links to the concept

**Enquire:** what the concept means

**Contextualise:** where the concept is looked at with a specific context, for example within Christianity or Hinduism

**Evaluate:** where the children evaluate the importance of the concept for the people in that context.

## The current RE overview at Cove Junior School

In each year, the children explore six different concepts. These might be linked to the unit plans or stand alone and may be taught as a block to facilitate understanding. The main religions currently taught at Cove Junior School are Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. We use a range of resources and video clips to support the pupils' understanding.

Year Religion	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3/4 A Hinduism	Making decisions <i>Persuasion</i> A	Holy <i>Mary mother of god</i> B	Good and evil <i>Holi/Divali</i> A	Suffering <i>Key events of holy week</i> A	Sacred place <i>Places of worship</i> B	Protection <i>Raksa Bandha</i> B
Year 3/4 B Hinduism	Temptation <i>Making choices</i> A	Angels <i>Angels</i> B	Devotion <i>Hindu worship Mahashivratri</i> A	Easter <i>Changing Emotions</i> A	Rites of passage <i>ritual</i> B	Wisdom <i>Guru Nanak</i> A
Year 5 Islam	Prayer <i>Qur'an + WUDU</i> B (starting in 2018)  <i>Belonging</i> A	Prophecy <i>The magi</i> B	Creation <i>Stewardship</i> B	Sacrifice A	The Journey of Life <i>Rites of passage</i> B	Umma <i>What it means to live life as a Muslim 5 pillars of Islam</i> C
Year 6 Islam	Power A	Interpretation <i>Christmas- two birth narratives</i> B	Justice A	Resurrection <i>The empty cross</i> C	Ritual <i>Ramadan + Eid</i> B	Peace <i>What it means to live life as a Muslim</i> C

### Assessment

During each unit, the children are assessed on one strand of the cycle. The assessment opportunities include role play, art, presentations, poetry, diary entries, discussions and other fun, hands on ways. This allows each pupil to showcase their knowledge and 'Aim High' in all areas of their learning.

### Right to withdraw

The Education Act 1996, School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Education Act 2002 state that Religious Education must be taught to all children and young people except for those who wish to withdraw their children. The school will comply with all requests to withdraw children from taught RE sessions.

If a parent chooses to withdraw their child, they must write a letter to the headteacher. She may then wish to clarify with any parent wanting to withdraw their child:

- Any religious issues the parent would object to their child being taught
- The practical implications of withdrawal
- If a parent wanted advance notice of topics taught before withdrawal

Teachers are also safeguarded, should they wish to withdraw from teaching RE.