



**Bramcote Church of England (VA) School**

**Religious Education Policy**

**November 2016**

## Our Approach

Our school is distinct in nature, being a Church of England Aided School we hold the Bible's teaching in high regard.

At Bramcote C of E all that we do is driven by our school motto 'Life in all its Fullness' and the values taught by Jesus.

We have strong links with St Michael and All Angels Church and through our strong Christian Ethos we develop our pupils' spiritual and emotional well-being. We were classed as an Outstanding' School by the Church Inspection team (SIAS) in April 2012.

## Rationale and Aims

We aim that Religious Education will:

- **Provoke challenging questions** about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong, and what it means to be human. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal religions, and religious traditions that examine these questions, fostering personal reflection and spiritual development.
- **Encourage pupils to explore their own beliefs** (whether they are religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of religious belief and faith; and to express their responses.
- **Enable pupils to build their sense of identity and belonging**, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society.
- **Teach pupils to develop respect for others**, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice.
- **Prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities** to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.

## R.E Curriculum

The new national curriculum framework as of September 2014, states that: "all state schools... must teach religious education to pupils at every key stage..."

As of date of print there is no published guidance on teaching R.E as part of the New Curriculum.

Our school curriculum overview can be found on Fronter.

In accordance with the structure of the locally agreed syllabus we have agreed that

At Foundation pupils learn about Hinduism through the festival of Divali and Christianity.

At KS1 pupils study Judaism and Christianity.

At KS2 pupils study Christianity, Hinduism and Islam.

Sikhism is not currently covered.

Resources for R.E. are kept in the teacher resource cupboard. Specific resources can be ordered from the Schools Library Service. Bluecoat School also offers a resource bank from which teachers are able to borrow.

## Assessment and Recording of RE

At the end of each unit of work, teachers will assess the children based on their work and contribution's during class activities. On occasions, where relevant, an assessment task may be given. This information will feed into the Church school self-evaluation process. (SIAS).

### A.T.1 *Learning about Religion*

*....to gain knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of Christianity in particular and world religions in general.*

### A.T.2 *Learning from Religion*

*.....developing the capacity and skill to respond thoughtfully to and evaluate what they learn about religions.*

## **Collective Worship**

We aim to make collective worship relevant and enjoyable. As a Church school we hold daily collective worship and each week we follow a specific theme or school rule. The rules are based on Christian values and reflect our mission, vision and ethos.

The format is as follows:

Monday: Introduction of our weekly rule usually by the Vicar or Children's and Families worker from our partnership church St Michael's.

Tuesday: Continuation of the theme by a member of the Senior Management Team.

Wednesday: Continuation of the theme by a member of staff.

Thursday: Worship through singing.

Friday: Conclusion of weekly theme and celebration of success.

We also have regular visitors from local churches in to lead assemblies.

Our overview of the weekly themes and supporting Bible verses can be found in the SSEAL folder on Fronter.

In addition to our daily assemblies we also aim to make available to all children a range of collective worship experiences. A Prayer Club runs on Monday lunchtimes for KS2 there is also a lunch time Worship Club.

We offer a biannual Prayer Stations Experience for every year group which is highly popular.

## **Reaching out**

We place importance on making and maintain links with the community in order to enable our pupils to become kind, caring and considerate members of their community.

Children from KS1 and KS2 have links with Pearson Court, a local nursing home. They periodically visit bearing harvest gifts or singing carols.

The school is also involved in The Arches Project and the Food Bank scheme which offers practical support for those in need in Nottingham.

The children are also invited to attend community events and clubs at St Michael's and All Angels Parish Church.

The school also supports the Shoebox Appeal run by Samaritans Purse which supports children around the world.

## **Equal Opportunities**

We respect and value the differences in others and strive to avoid a sense of exclusion for those of other faiths. As a school we place particular emphasis on RE teaching which is predominately Christian.

However we also teach the children the other main world faiths and encourage children to be respectful of all faiths.

As a school we will not actively seek to convert children from the faith of their parents, but pupils will experience what it is to live in a community that celebrates the Christian faith; to work within a framework of discipline and yet be confident of forgiveness; to begin to share the Christian's hope and the Christian experience of God's love.

## **Withdrawals**

We wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents have a right by law to withdraw their children from the Religious Education curriculum. In this event, the school will undertake responsibility for the supervision of withdrawn pupils with regard to health and safety, alternative work will be provided.

**Sarah Shaw November 2016**

**Review Date: November 2018**