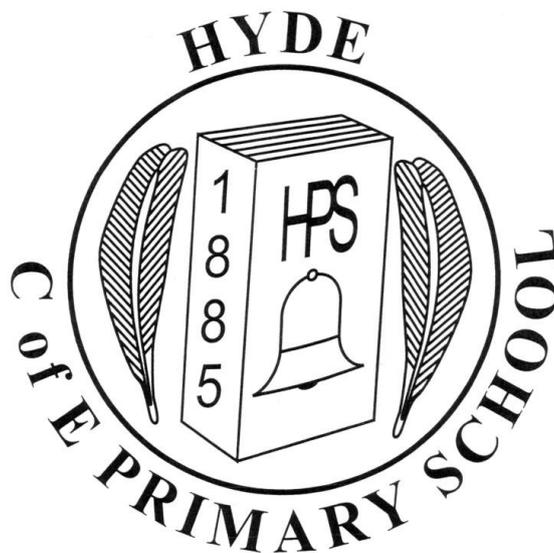
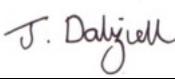


HYDE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Endorsed by Governing Body: 9 th May 2017	Review Date: May 2019
Headteacher: Julie Dalziell	Signature of Headteacher: 
Chair of Governors: Robert Shadbolt	Signature of Chair of Governors: 

HYDE C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

RATIONALE

At Hyde Church of England Primary School, we believe Religious Education, (R.E.), provides children with opportunities to develop an understanding of their own experiences and beliefs as well as the beliefs and practices of members of world faith communities.

R. E. at Hyde School is firmly rooted in Christianity but our approach is ecumenical and children of all faiths and no faith are encouraged to reflect on what might be learned from religions: Indoctrination and conversion are not part of the educational process.

LEGAL REQUIREMENT

It is a statutory requirement that schools teach religious education as set down in the locally agreed syllabus. In this school the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Living Difference III, will be taught; it confirms our school's commitment to an education that values religious and cultural diversity.

AIMS

We aim to:

- enable children to understand the nature of Christian beliefs and practices and the beliefs and practices of other world faiths
- teach tolerance and challenge prejudice towards people of different faiths through providing opportunities for children to develop an understanding of the value of living in a multicultural, multi-faith and multilingual society
- help children reflect upon their own needs, experiences and questions and to confront what are sometimes referred to as 'ultimate questions' e.g. why is there suffering?
- encourage children to develop open minds to new and different concepts and to form their own opinions based on evidence and argument
- maintain close links with local churches and other religious communities
- enable children to learn *from* religions in addition to gaining knowledge and understanding *about* religions.

As a result, children will:

- develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences
- develop a sense of awe and wonder through first-hand experiences
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and recognise and express their own values and beliefs
- develop investigative skills and research skills to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues
- have respect for other people's views and celebrate the diversity of society and challenge prejudice
- foster links with the local community and welcome visitors to the school
- be prepared for adult life, employment and life-long learning
- respect the availability of time to talk openly and honestly
- experience lessons taught through a mix of whole class, group and individual approaches using differentiated tasks

PLANNING

R.E. at Hyde is taught in accordance with the legal requirements of the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Living Difference III. This syllabus places emphasis on children's exploration of meaning, purpose and value of different faiths, through a concept driven approach.

Continuity and progression in children's knowledge and understanding is provided through a carefully developed, long-term two-year rolling programme and medium-term planned units.

In the **Foundation Stage**, links are made with the Early Learning Goals and the children encounter simple concepts which are within their own experience e.g. celebration, specialness, community.

In **Key Stages 1 and 2** pupils follow LEA schemes of work which are adapted to suit the ability and aptitude of the children:

- In Key Stage 1, (Years 1 and 2), children will study Christianity and Hinduism
- In lower Key Stage 2, (Years 3 and 4), children will study Christianity and Judaism
- In upper Key Stage 2, (Years 5 and 6), children will study Christianity and Sikhism

TEACHING

In the teaching of R.E.:

- a variety of resources will be used, including books, DVDs, photographs, artefacts, visits to different places of worship, visitors from the world faiths being studied.
- children will have the opportunity to respond in a variety of ways e.g. P4C discussions, poems, stories, recounts, reports on visits, art work, drama, discussions, presentations to others, displays.
- there will be recognition that children have differing abilities and suitable learning opportunities will be provided for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Class Teachers:

It is the responsibility of each class teacher to ensure that the agreed R.E. curriculum is delivered in their classroom, following the guidelines above.

R.E. Manager:

It is the responsibility of the RE coordinator to ensure that the RE curriculum is effectively planned, assessed and resourced. S/he will:

- seek to enthuse children and staff about R.E. and promote high standards of achievement and high quality provision
- advise and support staff in the planning, delivery and assessment of R.E.
- manage and develop resources for R.E.
- monitor and evaluate R.E. throughout the school
- keep up to date with current developments by attending courses, liaising with colleagues from other schools within the diocese and using knowledge gained from these activities as the basis for staff development activities
- ensure all staff teach RE according to the planning so that children make good progress.

ASSESSMENT

Evidence of children's progress will be captured in a number of ways, for example through speaking and listening, drama, dialogue and discussion, as well as through a variety of different written activities. The Living Difference III age-related expectations will be used to ensure that children make progress over time.

RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education as identified in the Education Reform Act. Hyde is a Church of England School where Christian values underpin the whole curriculum.

In order to preserve the distinctiveness of this church school community, we encourage everyone to be involved in Religious Education and Collective Worship. It is the hope of the staff and governors that, in choosing to send their child to a church school, parents will be happy to allow their child to participate.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Headteacher and R.E. subject manager are responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in R.E. They are also responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of R.E., for being informed about current developments in the subject and for providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school. The R.E. manager will present the Headteacher with an annual report which will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the subject and indicate further areas for improvement.

This policy will be reviewed every two years by staff and the Governors' School Improvement Committee. However, if the Headteacher's and/or R.E. manager's monitoring identifies the need for a revision then the policy will be amended before the stated review date.

Written: April 2017

Next review: May 2019