

Weddington Religious Education Policy

Intent

Religious Education (RE) at Weddington is an integral part of our curriculum:

- It provides the children with the opportunity to explore and understand a range of worldviews including, but not restricted to, religious beliefs, practices, and traditions.
- Our RE curriculum is aligned with the Coventry and Warwickshire SACRE syllabus, ensuring a comprehensive and engaging approach to learning about religion and worldviews through exploratory learning.
- Weddy students access our ambitious RE curriculum through adopting the roles of a theologian, philosopher, historian and human and social scientist, and on occasion as literary and art critics.
- The curriculum has been designed and adapted to compliment Weddington's Values and Vision ensuring the children recognise the value of Religious Education and their own and other's worldviews, therefore encouraging greater tolerance of differences.

Implementation

Our RE lessons provide:

- An opportunity for our students to celebrate the wonderful cultural diversity we have at Weddington, as well as in the global community.
- Allow children to explore and reflect on their own and one another's worldviews, whether they are religious or not, and recognise and acknowledge the similarities and differences that they have.
- A chance for experiences, ideas and thoughts to be shared, which allows for our children to celebrate their uniqueness and become the curious, courageous and confident graduates that we aspire for them to be.
- Weddy students access to our ambitious RE curriculum through adopting the roles of a theologian, philosopher, historian and human and social scientist, and on occasion as literary and art critics.

RE and British Values:

Religious Education plays a crucial role in promoting British Values. Through the study of religion and worldviews, children develop an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures and perspectives, fostering empathy and respect for others.

RE and our Weddy Values and Vision:

Our RE curriculum is designed to promote the 'Weddy Values' and Vision. As children progress through the school, the curriculum will increase the children's confidence, curiosity and courage to not only celebrate their own worldviews, but also the worldviews of other in our community and beyond. In addition, the values are embedded throughout our lessons, encouraging students to develop important character traits and ethical principles.

- Perseverance: Encouraging students to explore complex religious and non-religious concepts and engage in critical thinking.
- Inspiration: Exposing students to the stories and teachings of various religious figures and traditions, inspiring them to reflect on their own beliefs and values.
- Aspiration: Encouraging students to aspire towards understanding and tolerance of different worldviews.
- Truth: Fostering an environment where students can explore and discover truths about different religions and worldviews and address any misconceptions that may lead to prejudice and/or discrimination.



- Reflection: Providing opportunities for students to reflect on their own personal beliefs and values considering what they have learned about different religions and worldviews.

-Mindfulness: Integrating mindfulness practices to help students cultivate a deeper understanding and appreciation of religious beliefs, practices and worldviews.

- Respect: Promoting respect and fostering a sense of empathy and understanding towards worldviews that may not align with their own.

Study of World Religions:

In our RE curriculum, six major world religions are studied: Christianity, Judaism, Buddhist Traditions, Sanatan Dharma (Hinduism), Islam, and Sikhi (Sikhism). In addition, Humanist and Pagan perspectives and those of minor world religions are considered too. Through interactive lessons, discussions, and engaging activities, students learn about the key beliefs, practices, festivals, and rituals of each religion and how they influence an individual's worldview. They also explore the historical and cultural contexts in which these religions emerged and have transformed, gaining a deeper understanding of their significance in the world today.

Impact

By studying these religions:

- Students develop a greater appreciation for the diversity of human experience and belief systems.
- They are able to recognise shared values and aspirations that unite us as members of a global community.
- Weddington strives to promote respect, understanding, and compassion towards people of all faiths, worldviews and backgrounds, fostering a culture of inclusivity and mutual respect within our school community and beyond.

Parents and guardians have the right to withdraw children from RE lessons without explanation. We do though discourage this and instead encourage all children to participate in the lessons as they are not a form of worship and are a wonderful way for children to learn about the world and people around them. If parents/guardians do wish to withdraw their child/children from these lessons, the responsibility lies with them to provide adequate work for the lessons that are missed.

