



Braishfield Primary School

## **RE Policy**

**Approval: July 2024**

**Review due: July 2027**

## OUR MISSION

- *To inspire each child to develop a love of learning for life*
- *To grow children with the ambition to be the best that they can be*

## OUR VISION

*We want to continue to be recognised as an excellent school which:*

- *Provides a rich, purposeful curriculum, which all children can access in a stimulating learning environment*
- *Encourages high expectations for our children so that they fulfil their true potential*
- *Fosters a warm, welcoming and safe community in which every individual feels valued and understood*
- *Equips children with the life skills to play a positive and active role in the future society which they will create*

## **Purpose**

The purpose of RE is to support the development of children's own values, to contribute to the promotion of British values and to children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This enables children to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religions and to their own and others' cultural and life experiences. This takes the form of encountering religious stories, festivals, artefacts, places of worship, rituals and beliefs. A further purpose of RE is to foster mutual understanding between students of differing religions or cultural backgrounds.

## **Aims and objectives**

RE at Braishfield Primary School is taught in accordance with the Legal requirements of the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire – "Living Difference." The syllabus is based upon understanding, and responding to, the Key Concepts within the major religions and non-religious beliefs represented in Great Britain.

We aim:

- to enable children to recognise and express their own values, opinions and beliefs, whilst respecting those of others.
- to provide a wide variety of opportunities for children to encounter the beliefs, practices, customs and culture of the religions studied.
- to equip children with the key thinking skills necessary to interpret religion in relation to human experience.

## **RE in the Foundation Stage**

There is a legal obligation to deliver RE to Reception class children according to the agreed Syllabus. Where possible, links are made between RE and other areas of learning as children work towards the Early Learning Goals. Accordingly, these children are introduced to simple concepts, appropriate to this stage of their development such as celebration, specialness and belonging.

## RE in KS1 and KS2

RE at Braishfield Primary School is taught in accordance with the legal requirements of the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, *Living Difference IV*. We follow the recommended time allocation of 45 hours of RE per year for Key Stage 1 and 2, with links made with other areas of the curriculum where appropriate. At Braishfield Primary School we follow a two year teaching cycle. Concepts studied in each year group can be found on the school website: <https://www.braishfield.hants.sch.uk/re/>

## Strategies for Teaching RE

RE is taught through a variety of approaches which best reflect the needs of individual pupils. These include: whole-class activities, group or paired activities and individual tasks. Children are often encouraged to work in mixed-ability groups, supporting and challenging each other. Their understanding is developed through first-hand experience using artefacts, visits to places of worship and visits by members of faith communities.

RE units encourage pupils to communicate their knowledge and understanding in a wide variety of styles, such as through drama, art, Literacy, music, dance and ICT where appropriate. Individual teachers use their professional knowledge to help children make connections between learning in RE and other recent activities.

A wide range of resources is available to enrich the RE curriculum, including videos, artefacts, posters, books and edibles. Resources are also available from the Hampshire RE Centre.

## Right to withdraw

In accordance with the Education Act 1996, School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Education Act 2002, parents have the right to withdraw their children from the teaching of Religious Education, without influence from the school, although the school will ensure parents or carers are informed of this right and are aware of the educational objectives and content of the Religious Education syllabus. In this way, parents can make an informed decision. Where parents have requested that their child is withdrawn, their right must be respected, and where Religious Education is integrated in the curriculum, the school will discuss the arrangements with the parents or carers to explore how the child's withdrawal can be best accommodated. In order to avoid misunderstandings, any parent wishing to withdraw their child may arrange a meeting with the Headteacher in order to discuss:

- The religious issues about which the parent would object to his/her child being taught.
- The practical implications of withdrawal e.g. supervision and alternative activities.
- The circumstances in which the school can reasonably accommodate parental wishes.
- Any advance notice required of such Religious Education.

Teachers have the right to withdraw from teaching RE. They must do so in writing to the Headteacher and Governors, who will arrange for these classes to be taught by another member of staff.

Signed ..... Headteacher

Signed..... Chair of Governors

Signature date:

Review date: