



## MENDIP EDGE FEDERATION

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

DRAYCOTT & RODNEY STOKE C OF E FIRST SCHOOL  
AND SHIPHAM C OF E FIRST SCHOOL

#### INTRODUCTION

This policy operates within the aims of the school and reflects our status as Church of England Schools. RE explores how individuals and communities make meaning and sense of their lives through the major religions of the world. It enables pupils to know about, understand and respond to the important and ultimate questions of life. RE is taught in such a way that inspires pupils to explore, develop and affirm their own faith and values and have respect for the faith, beliefs and values of others.

#### AIMS AND PURPOSE

RE supports and strengthens the vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. The importance placed on the development of the whole child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally, emotionally and intellectually is reflected in the RE curriculum.

- To develop knowledge and understanding of the Christian beliefs and practices so that they understand the importance of the Bible, the role of the church and recognise that for Christians their faith provides a way of interpreting life and its meaning.
- To foster a reflective approach to life and promote the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, helping them to reflect upon personal feelings, responses and relationships.
- To develop a sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- To explore ways in which values and teaching have an impact on actions and decisions.
- To develop skills of reflection, empathy, communication, analysis, investigation, interpretation, evaluation and synthesis.
- To develop an awareness, knowledge and understanding of the religious beliefs of other faiths and encourage an appreciation of and respect for different cultures and viewpoints.

#### ORGANISATION

- RE teaching and assessment follow the criteria laid down in the locally agreed syllabus 'Awareness, Mystery and Value and Understanding Christianity'.
- 'Awareness, Mystery and Value and Understanding Christianity' sets out an assumption for the time allocated to RE as 36 hours per year at KS1 and 45 hours per year at KS2.
- A wide range of teaching approaches are used, including the use of artefacts; music; visual art; creative, factual and reflective writing; visits; and discussion.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation are part of a whole school cycle of self-review and this will be achieved over time by asking all stakeholders to reflect on Religious Education.

Monitoring of RE will be carried out jointly by the Head Teacher and the Foundation Governors. The evidence will include:

- Clear learning outcomes for all units of work, based on appropriate expectations
- Pupil progress and attainment in RE will be tracked and recorded for all units
- Written observations; checking that practice matches planning
- Observing children's attentiveness and level of interest
- Conducting occasional formal observations of RE and providing feedback
- Seeking feedback from children, staff, parents, governors, incumbent and visitors
- Observing the extent that RE and the school values influence children's attitudes and behaviour throughout the school
- Holding regular staff meetings and discussions with colleagues
- Gathering written comments from colleagues on the worship planning sheet

## **RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL**

We expect all children to take part in RE lessons. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be withdrawn after consultation with Head Teacher. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this, although suitable arrangements will need to be made to accommodate these children. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Since this is a church school however, RE is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education.

## **REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed every three years.

Date Reviewed December 2016

Date to be reviewed December 2019