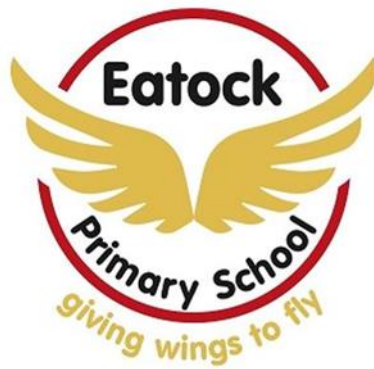


# Religious Education Policy



**Eatock Primary School**  
*'Giving wings to fly'*

**A Policy for Religious Education**

**The Intent, implementation and Impact of our Curriculum – R.E.**

**INTENT**

At Eatock Primary School, the aim of Religious Education is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain; to appreciate the way that religious beliefs shape life and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in such a way as to reflect the overall aims, values, and philosophy of the school. At Eatock Primary, Religious Education plays an important role, along with all other curriculum areas and PHSE taught through Jigsaw, in promoting the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of our children. Eatock School follows the Bolton Agreed Syllabus for RE.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

At Eatock, it has been agreed that having taken into account the requirements and guidelines presented in the Bolton Agreed Syllabus for RE, the following religions have been selected for study:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism
- Hinduism

There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds and beliefs and values of the children and the staff. We value the religious background of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely. All religions and their communities are treated with respect and sensitivity and we value the links, which are, and can be made between home, school, and a faith community. We acknowledge that each religion studied can contribute to the education of all our pupils. We promote teaching in Religious Education that stresses open enquiry and first-hand experiences wherever possible for both staff and children and this is supported with trips to different places of worship and visits from people of different faiths and beliefs (See Overview of Trips and Visits).

**IMPACT**

The children at Eatock Primary enjoying learning about other religions and why people choose, or choose not to follow a religion. Through their R.E. learning, the children are able to make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world. Through R.E. our children are developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life, which they are then able to communicate to the wider community.

R.E. offers our children the means by which to understand how other people choose to live and to understand why they choose to live in that way. As such, R.E. is invaluable in an ever changing and shrinking world.

## **Rationale**

Eatock Primary School aims to foster attitudes of respect and consideration. Religious education provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

RE offers opportunities of personal reflection and spiritual development. It enables children to flourish individually, within their communities and as a citizen in a diverse society. RE plays an important role in preparing children for adult life, employment and lifelong learning. Religious Education involves people finding out about the beliefs and practices of different religions. Learning about different religions helps to break down the barriers of ignorance and discrimination. It enables children to develop respect for and sensitivity to others and discourages prejudice.

## **Aims**

- To explore the sources and nature of religion.
- To provide opportunities to develop spiritual and moral responsibilities.
- To foster a sensitive understanding of the demands of living in a multi-faith society.
- To encourage respect of the beliefs of others.

## **Objectives**

The school will:

- Fulfil the expected requirement of a minimum 5% teaching time allocation.
- Develop an understanding of the importance and value of religion within our community.
- Provide a variety of learning experiences related to four core religions, Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism whilst acknowledging others.
- Recognise that there are shared experiences and differences in religious beliefs and that all are worthy of respect and consideration.
- Develop an open spirit of enquiry into the beliefs and practices of our multi-faith community.

## **Teaching and Learning**

RE has its own distinctive subject matter and it makes an important contribution to other aspects of children's learning. The key ones are outlined below.

### **RE contributes to children's spiritual development by:**

- Discussing and reflecting on questions of meaning and truth such as the origins of the universe, good and evil, life after death, beliefs about God and humanity and values such as justice, honesty and truth.
- Learning about and reflecting on important concepts and experiences such as love, trust, forgiveness, obedience and sacrifice.
- Valuing relationships and developing a sense of belonging.

- Considering how religions and beliefs regard the value and purpose of human beings, the importance of the environment and the significance of emotions such as love, anger, joy, jealousy, happiness and pain.

### **RE contributes to children's moral development by:**

- Enabling children to value themselves and others.
- Exploring the influence of family, friends and other sources on moral choices.
- Considering what is of ultimate value both to children and within religious traditions.
- Developing an understanding in key beliefs and teachings in religion and values and moral choices.
- Considering ethical issues especially justice which promotes racial and religious respect.
- Reflecting on the importance of rights and responsibilities and developing a sense of conscience.

### **RE contributes to children's social development by:**

- Considering how religious and other beliefs lead to particular actions and concerns.
- Reflecting on the importance of friendship and positive relationships.

### **RE contributes to children's cultural development by:**

- Encountering people, stories, artefacts and resources from differing cultures.
- Promoting respect for all, combating prejudice and discrimination.
- Challenging stereotypes of religion and beliefs.

Pupils are provided with the opportunity to work as individuals, in pairs, small groups and as a whole class.

### **Rights of withdrawal**

We firmly believe that RE is an important subject in children's learning. We fully recognise the legal right of parents to withdraw their children from all or any part of RE on the grounds of conscience. We do encourage parents to contact the Head teacher or the class teacher if they have any concerns about RE provision and practice at the school.

### **Assessment**

Class teachers will make termly assessments of each child's progress in RE using the unit and end of phase outcomes from the Bolton Agreed Syllabus for RE.

Written by G Thomas, September 2018.

Updated by G Thomas January 2020

Updated by G Thomas and E Cunliffe September 2021