

Moorside Community Primary Academy



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

At Moorside Academy our primary aim as educators is to ensure that our pupils are safe, **happy** and ready to learn. The ethos of our school is that the foundations are built firmly on **peace** and **respect**, regardless of an individual's role in the academy. Our children and their **families (community)** are at the heart of everything that we do here at Moorside and our curriculum has been developed in partnership with our children to be stimulating and engaging and to promote a lifelong love of **learning**. Our **nurturing** approach ensures that our curriculum is fully **inclusive** for all learners and we work hard to **challenge** all of our children and develop in them the **resilience** that will accompany them on their future learning journey.

Aims and Objectives using the Discovery RE Scheme

At Moorside, we believe that learning about religion and beliefs is an extremely important part of our broad curriculum, as it shapes our children's knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live. Our teaching provokes challenging questions which contributes to children's personal development and promotes mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society. The skills and attitudes taught throughout our RE curriculum make a significant contribution to children's Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development, promote fundamental British Values and contribute positively to social cohesion.

By following Discovery RE at Moorside Community Primary Academy we intend that Religious Education will:-

- Teach children about a range of religions and worldviews
- Allow them to express ideas and insights about the nature, significant and impact of religions and worldviews
- Support children with skills needed to engage and enquire about religions and worldviews

Discovery RE Content

At Moorside Community Primary Academy, teachers will use the Discovery RE planning to cover all areas of RE for the primary phase. This will be used in conjunction with whole school assemblies focusing on our school values and festivals throughout the academic calendar. Children at Moorside will be taught RE for 1 hour 30 minutes each week including time spent in collective worship.

The Foundation Stage

RE in Little Sparklers, Nursery and Reception is taught through the 'Understanding of The World' aspect of EYFS curriculum and is related to the six topics accessed by the children each year.

In the Foundation Stage the children are required to understand that some places are special to members of their community and recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. Children in the EYFS are given the opportunity to learn about their own important celebrations and other cultures festivals through stories and activities in the continuous provision.

KS1 and KS2

RE at Moorside will reflect and represent the religions found within the school community. It will also take into account the religions found in the immediate geographical area surrounding the school (locally) and beyond (nationally and globally). Children at Moorside must have opportunities to learn about at least two religions throughout the academic year following the Discovery RE planning. These are outlined below:

- Year 1 - Christianity and Judaism
- Year 2 -Christianity, Judaism and Islam.
- Year 3- Christianity, Sikhism and Hinduism
- Year 4- Christianity and Judaism
- Year 5- Christianity, Sikhism and Hinduism
- Year 6- Christianity and Islam

Each enquiry starts from the children's own life experiences using these as a bridge into the investigation of the religion being studied.

RE and Inclusion

Discovery RE is written as a universal core curriculum provision for all children. Inclusivity is part of its philosophy. Teachers will tailor each enquiry to meet the needs of the children in their classes. To support this, many enquiries suggest creative learning activities that allow children to choose the media with which they work and give them scope to work to their full potential. Each enquiry has exemplars for those children working towards the learning objective, at the expected level for this age group and those working beyond the expected level of achievement.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

It is recognised that parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child from Religious Education then arrangements are made for that child to be withdrawn during the lessons by the class teacher in consultation with the Head teacher.

Assessment

At Moorside, teachers are required to assess the children's understanding using the enquiry assessment to highlight the children's knowledge of the religion, depth of critical thinking and ability to answer the enquiry question. Learning will be evidenced in the children's curriculum folders with 2/3 pieces of work per half term.

Resources

The resources are stored in a central position and include a range of artefacts, books, posters and DVDs. They are being updated continually. A resource list is available on request.