



# Meadowside Community Primary & Nursery School

A Member of **The Challenge Academy Trust**

## Religious Education Policy

<b>Policy written by</b>	School
<b>Date Policy Written Updated</b>	July 2017 June 2019, 2022
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<b>Next Review</b>	June 2024
<b>Head teacher</b>	Mr S Wright 
<b>Chair of Governors</b>	Mr P Calrow 

*'Where Learners Grow'*

## **Introduction**

Meadowside Community Primary & Nursery School delivers Religious Education (R.E.) in line with the Locally Agreed Syllabus. Since 2014, the school has followed the agreed Lancashire, Blackpool and Warrington syllabus.

The syllabus is built around the key question 'What does it mean to be human?' Through the delivery of the curriculum, pupils will progress in R.E. through the exploration of these four areas:

- shared human experience - the nature of human being.
- living religious tradition - principal religious traditions encountered in the world.
- beliefs and values - which lie at the heart of these traditions.
- the search for personal meaning – a life- long quest for understanding.

## **Aims**

The delivery of Religious Education and the Agreed Syllabus, we aim to:

- promote pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.
- establish the principles for distinguishing the difference between right and wrong.
- developing knowledge, understanding and appreciation of pupil's own and other's beliefs and cultures.
- promote equality and empower pupils with the opportunity to challenge discrimination and stereotyping.

Our delivery of the Agreed Syllabus aims to develop the knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in the school, Warrington and Great Britain. Christianity is studied throughout each key stage for a minimum 50% of the RE curriculum time. In addition to this other world faiths will be discussed: Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Sikhism. In order to ensure that all pupils' voices are heard, other secular philosophies, such as humanism, maybe included. When teaching RE, the school will not seek to urge religious beliefs on pupils by promoting one religion over another.

## **Entitlement**

In order to deliver the aims and expected standards of the syllabus, R.E. should have the minimum allocation time of 5% of curriculum time. This roughly equates to one hour a week, although allocation time can fluctuate to match requirement.

## **Approaches to the teaching of RE**

In order to make religious education a lively and active subject, we employ a variety of teaching methods including art, music, discussion, the development of thinking skills, drama, the use of artefacts, pictures, stories, and the use of periods of stillness and reflection. Where possible we would like our pupils to have opportunities to encounter local faith communities through visits to local places of worship or visits from members of local faith communities to the school.

If we as a school are concerned over indoctrination, radicalisation or extremism from any member of staff, visitor or family member then procedures are in place to deal with this. School would contact the PREVENT officer within Warrington LA. If there were concerns over

a member of the SLT over the above, the staff would refer to the Chair of Governors who would also then contact the LA and the Prevent Officer for Warrington.

### **Programmes of Study**

Each scheme of work is built around the syllabus focus of 'What does it mean to be human?'

In order to relate to this key question, there are seven key areas of focus, identified as key questions. Each key question is assigned to a year group and forms the foundation for each R.E. unit of work.

EYFS: Where do we belong?

Year 1: What do people say about God?

Year 2: How do we respond to the things that really matter?

Year 3: Who/What should we follow?

Year 4: How should we live our lives?

Year 5: Where can people find guidance on how to lead their lives?

Year 6: In what way is life like a journey?

In each unit of work, there are two key attainment targets. These being: AT1: Learning about religion and beliefs and AT2: Learning from religions and human beliefs. By focusing on these attainment targets, it will help to develop the above key areas and help to deliver a broad and appropriate curriculum.

In EYFS – Christianity and one other religion will be taught.

In Key Stage 1 – Christianity and two other religions reflecting the school community will be taught.

In Key Stage 2 – Christianity and at least two other religions will be taught representing the faiths of Warrington and the wider world.

### **Inclusion**

We are committed to the provision of equal opportunities across all subjects including religious education regardless of gender, race and ability. Any child with additional needs with regards to accessing RE will have specific curriculum content within their Pupil Passport. See the SEN policy for additional information.

### **Assessment and monitoring of RE**

In line with the Agreed Syllabus, children's work and achievement will be monitored using the level descriptions from the Agreed syllabus.

The Subject Leader will monitor evidence of work – including photographs; class discussion books; and planning in order to monitor the progression and development of this curriculum area. Evidence in books should include pieces from both Attainment Targets – AT1: Learning about religion and beliefs and AT2: Learning from religions and human beliefs.

### **The right of Withdrawal from RE**

**We wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents, of course, have the legal right to withdraw their children from religious education. The law states:**

*Where parents have requested that their child is withdrawn, their right must be respected, and where RE is integrated in the curriculum, the school will need to discuss the*

*arrangements with the parents or carers to explore how the child's withdrawal can be best accommodated.*

*If pupils are withdrawn from RE, schools have a duty to supervise them, though not to provide additional teaching or to incur extra cost. Pupils will usually remain on school premises. Where a pupil has been withdrawn, the law provides for alternative arrangements to be made for RE of the kind the parent wants the pupil to receive. This RE could be provided at the school in question, or the pupil could be sent to another school where suitable RE is provided if this is reasonably convenient.*

**A pupil withdrawn from RE must therefore be studying alternative RE agreed with the parents. No other subject can be studied during the time the pupil has been withdrawn.**

**We would ask any parent considering this to contact Mr Wright (Headteacher) to discuss any concerns or anxieties they may have about the policy, provision and practice of religious education. Parents are requested to make alternative RE provision for their child. This will be done in consultation with the SLT.**