



William Fletcher Primary School Religious Education Policy

William Fletcher School is a Rights Respecting School, this policy reflects Articles 13 (freedom of expression) 14 (freedom of thought) 17 (access to information) 28 (right to education) 29 (goals of education)

This policy should be read in conjunction with the schools statement on teaching British Values.

Legal Requirements

- The legal requirements concerning the provision of Religious Education and an Agreed Syllabus flow, principally, from the Education Act 1996 (S. 375), the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (SS. 69 and 71 and Schedule 19) and the Education Act 2002 (S. 80).
- Religious Education is provided for all pupils, from Foundation Stage (F1) to Year 6.
- As a County School, Religious Education at William Fletcher is taught in accordance with the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus (2015).
- Oxfordshire's locally Agreed Syllabus reflects the fact that 'the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain'.
- Religious Education must be non-denominational. Teaching about denominational differences is permitted.

The Value of RE

- RE encourages a reflective approach to living, a knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices, and a development of personal skills in forming reasoned opinions, based on evidence and argument.
- RE helps pupils to understand our multi-faith society.
- RE promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional development.
- RE promotes citizenship education.
- RE aims to be an inclusive experience for pupils from all kinds of backgrounds, both religious and secular.

Aims

- To meet the two attainment targets outlined in the Agreed Syllabus that apply to William Fletcher Primary School:

AT1 Learning About Religion

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. beliefs and teaching | what people believe |
| b. practices and lifestyles | what people do |
| c. expression and language | how people express themselves |

AT2 Learning From Religion

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| d. identity and experience | making sense of who we are |
| e. meaning and purpose | making sense of life |
| f. values and commitments | making sense of right and wrong |

To enable pupils to

- understand the nature, role and influence of different religions, traditions, beliefs and lifestyles in the world;
- pursue personal quest for meaning, purpose and value;
- formulate reasoned opinions/arguments in relation to controversial issues and truth claims;
- develop understanding of and respect for different beliefs and lifestyles.

The Agreed Syllabus

•We study the following religions, although not all aspects of these religions will be studied at Primary School:

Foundation Stage (F1) – Christianity and the appropriate selection of other material.

Key Stage One – Christianity and aspects of Judaism.

Key Stage Two - Christianity and aspects of Islam and Hinduism.

•The school selects the details of what is taught regarding these religions from the Agreed Syllabus. Within this, there are a number of themes taught (outlined below), all of which are covered by the end of each Key Stage:

Key Stage 1

1. Believing
2. Story
3. Celebrations
4. Symbols
5. Leaders and Teachers
6. Belonging
7. Myself

Key Stage 2

1. Beliefs and Questions
2. Teachings and Authority
3. Worship, Pilgrimage and Sacred Places
4. Journey of Life and Death
5. Symbols and Religious Expression
6. Inspirational People
7. Religion and the Individual
8. Religion, Family and Community
9. Beliefs in Action

Assessment

RE is assessed against the SACRE assessment framework; this is reported to parents and carers at the end of the academic year through the schools individual pupil reports.

The Role of the RE Co-ordinator

- To be conversant with the Oxfordshire Agreed syllabus for Religious Education and to keep abreast of developments on a county and national level in the teaching of RE concerning William Fletcher Primary School.
- To liaise with staff, provide a supportive role and disseminate information about new developments.
- To help staff develop an increasing awareness of the Agreed Syllabus and its requirements.

- To monitor the RE programme. This will be achieved in a variety of ways for example, the checking and evaluating of planning and looking at pupils' work.
- To maintain a resource bank which will enhance the teaching of RE.
- To control the annual expenditure for resources.

Special Educational Needs

We believe all children should have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes Religious Education. We provide learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of the children. Further details are provided in the schools Special Educational Needs Policy.

Equal Opportunities

At William Fletcher Primary School we value the opinion, beliefs and practice of all. It is the responsibility of all teachers to ensure that all children irrespective of gender, ability, including gifted children, ethnicity and social circumstances, have access to the curriculum and make the greatest progress possible. Religious Education provides opportunities to raise awareness and to value cultural and ethnic diversity.

Race Equality Statement

Through the medium of Religious Education we explore and extend awareness of pupils' living in and belonging to, a multicultural society. Religious Education enables pupils to develop their own sense of identity and knowledge, understanding and sensitivity to the needs and contributions of all citizens.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

Parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education provided they give written notification to the school. Teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers would feel comfortable with the type of Religious Education being taught at our school.