

Religious Education – Intent, Implementation and Impact

At Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School, we believe RE has an integral role to play as part of a broad, balanced curriculum to which all pupils are entitled. We engage, inspire, challenge and encourage pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions.

RE enables pupils to appreciate their own and others' beliefs and cultures, helping them to develop a clear understanding of the significance of religion in their own area as well as in the world today.

RE intends to promote religious understanding and respect, and to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping. It is concerned with the promotion of each pupil's self-worth, enabling them to explore their own beliefs and opinions and reflect on their uniqueness as human beings, to share their feelings and emotions with others and to appreciate the importance of forming and maintaining positive relationships in a safe and supportive environment.

We strongly believe that the purpose of RE is about religious literacy. This means we aim for children to be able to hold a balanced and well-informed conversation about religion and belief, preparing them for life-long learning.

RE is taught in accordance with the Kent Agreed Syllabus. We aim to promote an enquiry-based approach to RE through the implementation of Understanding Christianity and the Diocese of Canterbury's agreed syllabus for world religions.

During each Key Stage, pupils are taught knowledge, skills and understanding through learning about Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism. Each unit of work identifies prior learning and builds on a key question.

RE is taught weekly for an hour in KS1 and an hour and a quarter to an hour and a half in KS2. Where possible, teaching is supplemented with occasional RE days, trips to places of worship or visits from people from faith communities.

The impact of RE will be seen through our pupils who will be able to give a knowledgeable and thoughtful account of Christianity as a living and diverse faith. They will show a well-informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning, as well as being able to engage in balanced, informed conversations with those of other faiths and reflect critically on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical beliefs.

The children's learning journey in RE is assessed each term using our current assessment framework with judgements by class teachers having been informed by the contributions made by children in class discussions and work recorded in their RE book. Teachers are also encouraged to keep a class 'Big Book' over a year and include examples of children's work, reflections, photographs of practical activities, visits, speakers, displays etc. to show the impact of learning.