

## <u>Intent</u>

# **Principal aim**

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

To develop an individual's knowledge and understanding of the 6 main religions and beliefs which form part of contemporary society. Develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, of other principal religions, other religious traditions and worldviews.

To provoke 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.

To contribute to pupils' personal development and well-being and to community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society – linking to our British Values.

To make important contributions to other parts of the school curriculum such as citizenship, personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE education), the humanities, education for sustainable development and others.

To give opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development, deepening understanding of the significance of religion in the lives of others – individually, communally and cross-culturally.

## **Implementation**

We will follow the locally agreed syllabus provided by the LA for the three SACRES (Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton) to reflect that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.

We will use the teaching and learning approach to weave things together.

### Making sense of beliefs

Identifying and making sense of core religious and non-religious beliefs and concepts; understanding what these beliefs mean within their traditions; recognising how and why sources of authority (such as texts) are used, expressed and interpreted in different ways; and developing skills of interpretation.

## **Making connections**

Evaluating, reflecting on and connecting the key concepts and questions studied, so that pupils can challenge the ideas studied and consider how these ideas might challenge their own thinking; discerning possible connections between the ideas and pupils' own lives and ways of understanding the world, expressing critical responses and personal reflections.

## Understanding the impact

Examining and explaining how and why people put their beliefs into action in diverse ways, within their everyday lives, within their communities and in the wider world, appreciating and appraising different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

#### **Impact**

It will give the children the knowledge, skills and understanding to distinguish between and value truth and goodness, strengthening their capacity for making moral judgements and for evaluating different types of commitment to make positive and healthy choices.

Exploring the concepts of religion and belief and their roles in the spiritual, moral and cultural lives of people in a diverse society helps individuals develop moral awareness, social understanding and mutual respect.

It will promote community cohesion; within the local community, in the UK community and the global community.

It will also build resilience to anti-democratic or extremist narratives and encourage empathy, generosity and compassion.