

RE Curriculum at Stamshaw Infant School

Intent

At Stamshaw Infant School we value, celebrate and explore a range of different religions and cultures. In Religious Education (RE) we follow the Living Difference IV syllabus agreed for Portsmouth, Hampshire, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. Using this agreed syllabus allows our pupils to be exposed to the best practice that has been developed for RE nationally.

Using the Living Difference IV syllabus allows us to introduce children to a religious way of looking at and existing in the world. Religion plays a part in the lives of children as they come to speak, think and act in the world.

At Stamshaw Infant School we encourage children to engage and embrace different religions and cultures with open mindedness. We want our children to recognise the educational value of engaging with new RE material intellectually, but also them becoming better able to discern what is desirable, for their own lives, and with others, for the world.

The teaching of RE links to our school values; respect, self-belief, creativity, success and team work.

Implementation

At Stamshaw Infant School we do an in depth study on two religions, Christianity (Abrahamic) and Hinduism (Dharmic). Children will also learn about and celebrate other religions/traditions when relevant, for example when Sikhs celebrate Diwali. We follow the Living Difference IV syllabus for Portsmouth. The teaching of Religious Education begins with our teachers finding exciting ways for children to experience, engage with and study the concepts in an intellectual way.

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) we will follow the recommendation of teaching 36 hours per academic year. In Early Years children will naturally learn about RE through different areas of the EYFS, their Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language (C&L) and Understanding the World (UTW). In Year 1 and 2 we will teach specific RE lessons in blocks each half term. RE lessons will follow a cycle of enquiry where children will **communicate, apply, inquire, contextualise** and **evaluate** a concept.

RE lessons are planned to be engaging, understandable and fun. Children enjoy sharing their understanding of the Christmas story each year through the performances of the Nativity. The following concepts will be taught and explored together.

- Early Years - celebration, precious, remembering someone special and looking forward.
- Year 1 - celebration, journeys end, remembering, welcoming, authority and belonging.
- Year 2 - special, light as a symbol, change, sadness to happiness, creation and God.

The RE leader plans and monitors the teaching of RE across the school.

Impact

Through the teaching of RE at Stamshaw Infant School our children will show an understanding of different beliefs, cultures and way of life. Children will respectfully speak about different religions. Children will be expected to express themselves and listen to the views of others. RE lessons will teach children a range of

skills that they will use in all areas of the curriculum. Through RE lessons, children will develop their thinking and communication skills.

Evidence of children's RE work is captured in a variety of ways, for example, photographs in class topic books, drama, class discussions, drawings and written work in children's individual topic books. In Early Years, children's work is recorded through a photograph and observation in their Learning Journey. Parents are encouraged and given the opportunity to share and discuss their child's RE work. We encourage our children to embrace and learn about the many cultures and religions of our local community.