



Religious Education at St Dunstan's

Intent

RE at St Dunstan's is based on the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) syllabus and is a broad, balanced and ambitious scheme of work that has clarity and purpose. The scheme builds on prior learning and has a progression of skills across the key stages.

The RE curriculum is predominantly Christian with integral units on Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Hinduism (2/3 Christianity and 1/3 other faiths in line with the Southwark Diocesan Scheme). This provides the children with an understanding and appreciation of the multi-faith world and how this is reflected within British society and our local area.

The content is based on

- National Curriculum
- 'A Curriculum Framework for Religious Education in England'
- 'Religious Education in Church of England Schools: A Statement of Entitlement from the Board of Education'
- Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Evaluation Schedule
- Changes in our community, the world and society
- Keeping in mind
 - o 'Making a Difference' report
 - o 'British Values'

As a school we celebrate diversity and promote an inclusive community that fosters respect for a range of religious and worldviews. A curriculum overview for RE (based on the Southwark Diocesan syllabus) has been devised by the subject leader and SLT to provide a balanced approach to the children's learning, reflecting theological and philosophical concepts.

Implementation

We ensure that all learners are supported through:

- Excellent teacher subject knowledge
- Clarity of purpose
- Teachers promoting appropriate discussions about the unit
- A scheme of work that builds on prior subject knowledge
- Well-resourced lessons
- Identification of individual needs
- Scaffolding where needed

- Pre-teaching
- Use of secondary sources

All pupils study the full RE curriculum and there are no limitations.

RE areas within the classroom provide prayer space/interactive reflective opportunities within classroom spaces. These will often link with Big Questions and next steps arising from RE and other curriculum learning. This enables children to draw on their learning and reflect, in their own time, to help develop their own individual spirituality. Following this they then have the opportunity to discuss and enter into meaningful dialogue with their peers to explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways of seeing, living and thinking, believing and belonging. In addition, this reinforces the links between what they have learnt in RE and how this is mirrored in other subjects and how this impacts and develops their everyday lives.

RE Big Books provide an excellent way of evidencing their AT2 learning across all areas of the curriculum. As the children progress through the school, they provide a growing record/library/montage of their spiritual development and journey. The children can then regularly look back and reflect on their learning and development, seeing important milestones as they have travelled through their school life.

Impact

The RE curriculum is engaging and challenging allowing children to explore core concepts and questions. It is coherent and promotes progress through ordered and sequential learning developing both knowledge and skills in AT1 and AT2 across Christianity and the major world religions.

Our children understand that as an inclusive school community, RE learning includes learning about a range of religions, as a result, fostering an understanding, tolerance and respect for others.

A rigorous method of assessment has been developed with all staff and has enabled accurate comparison with other core subjects using the school assessment tool – Target Tracker. In addition to this, there are 'I can statements' in the children's RE books to provide opportunities for reflection, self-evaluation and personal development. Exemplars of work are available to show progression of RE skills and to help support our rigorous assessment process.

The RE curriculum is treated as a core subject and, as with all subjects every measure is taken to ensure all lessons are at least good, developing skills of reflection, expression of feelings and independent learning. All lessons are appropriately adapted to suit all learners.

As a school, in a fast-changing demographic, our school life, curriculum and community constantly reflects these changes; we celebrate the increasing diversity. This is leading to organic growth of this important part of our school life which gives everyone the confidence to own and flourish within their own culture and beliefs.

RE displays are shared with the wider community in the Church as well as at the Diocese, thereby showing the importance of RE to the school's distinctive Christian nature. This promotes and celebrates the school's integral role within the wider community– the church, other RE leads, and the Diocese.

The imagination and creativity of the teachers leads to children making good levels of progress and achieving to a high standard; 'a thriving Christian school, guided by the Good Shepherd, founded on faith and, inspiring the best in everyone'. The children are then fully engaged and 'learn for life in all its fullness', witnessing people living out their faith through their work and experiences within our community. This helps inspire and foster a loving hospitable community, where our pupils feel safe to explore their identity, family and community "without fear of harm, judgment or being ostracized." (Valuing all God's Children, 2017). This means that RE contributes significantly to our inclusive Christian belief that we are made in the image of God and are therefore loved and valued by him.

Topics taught across each year group

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
N	To thank God for our world	Nativity story	Creation – caring for our world	Easter story	Special people – what makes us special	Special people - people from the Bible and the Lost Sheep
R	Special people	Why is Christmas special for Christians?	Who cares for this special world?	Easter Story	Why do Christians believe Jesus is special?	Who made the wonderful world?
1	What responsibility had God given people about taking care of Creation? Diwali	Why are saints important to Christianity? (2 weeks) Where is the Light of Christmas? (4 weeks)	What is it like to be a Jew?	Noah (2 weeks) How do symbols help us to understand the true meaning of Easter? (4 weeks)	What is the importance of symbols, beliefs and teaching in Hinduism?	The Parables of Jesus
2	The 10 Commandments (2 weeks) Why are they having a Jewish party? (4 weeks)	Why are they having a Jewish party? continued (2 weeks) Nativity characters: Which character are you? Why are you important? (4weeks)	What does the Lord's Prayer Mean? Purim	Christian Baptism and Marriage (2 weeks) Why is Easter the most important festival for Christians? (4 weeks)	Christian Baptism and Marriage (4 weeks) St Dunstan's Day 19 th May	What does it mean to be a Hindu?

					(2 weeks)	
3	People from the Old Testament	<p>What are the Beatitudes and what do they mean for Christians? (2 weeks)</p> <p>Jesus and the gift of Peace- is peace the most important message at Christmas? (4 weeks)</p>	What do Sikhs believe?	<p>What makes a Christian? (2 weeks)</p> <p>Holy Communion (4 weeks)</p>	What does it mean to be a Sikh?	Who is Jesus? ('I am... ' sayings)
4	The Bible	<p>Jesus' New Commandment and the 2 greatest commandments (2 weeks)</p> <p>Jesus and the gift of Peace- is peace the most important message at Christmas? (4 weeks)</p>	What does it mean to be a Muslim?	<p>What do the monastic traditions within Christianity show us about living in a community? (2 weeks)</p> <p>Easter People - Who is the most important person in the Easter story? (4 weeks)</p>	What are the 5 pillars of Islam and why are they important to Muslims?	What are the miracles of Jesus?
5	Liturgy	<p>Should every Christian go on a pilgrimage? (2 weeks)</p> <p>Christmas through music and art (4 weeks)</p>	What does it mean to be a Jew?	<p>Wisdom (including Proverbs) (2 weeks)</p> <p>What happens in churches at Easter? (4 weeks)</p>	The Journey of Life and Death	How has the Christian message survived for over 2,000 years?
6	Understanding Faith in Cheam/ Sutton	<p>Remembrance (2 weeks)</p> <p>How would Christians advertise Christmas? / What does Christmas mean today? (4 weeks)</p>	What is Buddhism?	<p>The Contemporary Anglican Church. (2 weeks)</p> <p>Easter Hope (4 weeks)</p>	What does it mean to be a Buddhist?	Rules and Responsibilities