

## Intent

At Grange Primary School, we believe that it is important for all our pupils to learn from different religions, beliefs, values and traditions, whilst exploring their own beliefs, so that they can better understand the world around them. The aim of Religious Education in our school is to help children to share their own experiences and listen to the ideas of others without making judgements. Our community is culturally diverse and our R.E. curriculum is designed to reflect and celebrate this. Pupils learn that there are many religions represented in the U.K. and that they can develop their own views as believers or nonbelievers.

We believe Religious Education plays a key role in promoting of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. They are given the opportunity to visit different places of worship and leaders from different faiths are invited to speak to our children. We encourage our pupils to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences. Our curriculum is designed to encourage creativity, imagination, enquiry, debate, discussion and independence in an open and inclusive environment. British Values are promoted through our curriculum, so that pupils are aware of their rights and responsibilities as British citizens. Religious Education plays a key role in the wider curriculum (particularly PSHCE) and in developing the social awareness and understanding in our children.

## Implementation

At Grange Primary School, we use the Southwark Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and the following religions are taught:

- Christianity
  - Islam
  - Judaism
  - Hinduism
  - Buddhism
  - Sikhism
- Humanism Experiences

Each year group explores one “Big Question” about religion throughout the year. Every term, children explore their question in the context of one of the world’s major religions, as well as looking at it from the tradition of secularism. The “Big Question” allows children to learn about religions in a creative way, while providing them with the skills to talk about RE in a sensitive and respectful way. Children learn through different units of study to support the “Big Question”. Each unit is accompanied by a cover page which details the key facts and vocabulary for each unit. Skills and knowledge are built upon each year, following a clear progression across the different year groups.

The Early Years R.E. curriculum is taught through the Understanding the World strand of Development Matters. Children begin to learn to talk about religion through the use of special books, special people, times, places and objects. They are introduced to key vocabulary and are encouraged to reflect on their own feelings and expressions, as well as listening to others. Children are encouraged to recognise that different people have different beliefs and certain places are important to members of their community.

During Religious Education, a variety of enrichment activities take place, such as: handling artefacts; exploring sacred texts; using imaginative play or drama to express feelings and ideas; responding to images from a variety of media; listening to leaders from different religious communities; visiting different places of worship, where possible; making comparisons through discussion; debating and communicating religious belief, worldviews and philosophical ideas, and answering and asking ultimate questions posed by these.

At Grange Primary School, we celebrate diversity and embrace the British Values which we convey to our pupils through mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. There are no presumptions made as to the religious backgrounds and beliefs of the children and the staff. We value the religious background of all members of the school community and encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely.

All religions and their communities are treated with respect and consideration and we value the links, which are made between home, school and a faith community.

### Impact

The children at Grange Primary School enjoy learning about other religions and why people choose, or choose not to follow a religion. They have a strong awareness of the world around them and gain insight into different religious beliefs. Pupils make links between their own lives and those of others in their community and in the wider world - developing an understanding of other people's cultures and ways of life.

Our curriculum is designed with clear progression. Pupils build and develop religious vocabulary and interpret religious symbolism in a variety of forms. They can reflect on questions of meaning, offering their own thoughtful and informed insights into religious and secular world-views. Pupils explore questions of beliefs and values in relation to a range of contemporary issues in an ever-changing society. As such, R.E. is invaluable at Grange in an ever-changing world to promote inclusivity and community cohesion.