

DALLAM CP SCHOOL



Religious Education Policy

Date of this Review	May 2025
Next Review due	May 2026
Approved by Governors	
Signed by Chair Of Governors	



DALLAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Religious Education Policy

Intent

At Dallam Community Primary School, Religious Education is taught in accordance with the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 'Searching for Meaning'. We aim to engage, motivate and inspire children to develop and affirm their own beliefs, values and attitudes through an exploration of shared human experiences.

We believe that studying religious and non-religious worldviews develops pupils' knowledge and understanding and better prepares them for life in our multicultural and diverse society. The skills and attitudes developed through RE can make a significant contribution to promoting British Values. At the heart of the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus is the quest to understand what it is to be human. By learning about, and from, religion, children can become more open minded, respectful and achieve greater self-awareness. Pupils need to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to make sense of the complex world in which they live so that they can 'respect religious and cultural differences and contribute to a cohesive and compassionate society' (RE Review 2013).

Implementation

Our RE curriculum is designed to both fulfil the requirements of Religious Education in the English School Guidance, and to provide experiences that engage, inspire and motivate all pupils.

Dallam Community Primary's Religious Education curriculum is taught from EYFS to Y6 and reflects the fact that religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religious traditions represented in Great Britain. We recognise the variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds from which our pupils come. The taught syllabus is not designed to promote a particular religion or religious belief. Religious Education provokes 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. Pupils learn to weigh up the value of wisdom from different sources, to develop and express insights in response, and to agree or disagree respectfully. As a school, we maintain that teaching about religions and worldviews should be sufficiently fair, balanced and open. We aim to promote mutual respect and understanding.

At Dallam Community Primary School pupils are encouraged to articulate clearly and coherently their personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences so that they can hold balanced and well-informed conversations about religions and worldviews whilst respecting the views of others. We believe that it is important to:

1. Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- describe, explain and analyse beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities and amongst individuals
- identify, investigate and respond to questions posed, and responses offered, by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and worldviews
- appreciate and evaluate the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

2. Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities
- express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value, including ethical issues
- appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of a religion or a worldview.

3. Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews, so that they can:

- find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively
- enquire into what enables different individuals and communities to live together respectfully for the wellbeing of all
- articulate beliefs, values and commitments clearly

Long term planning will be taken from the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and will be used to map out the areas covered throughout the year. Learning is adapted to meet the needs of all pupils. SEND pupils will be provided with an engaging and motivating Religious Education, which is accessible and meets their individual requirements.

- EYFS children will learn about Christianity, Islam and Hinduism.
- KS1 children will learn about Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism
- KS2 children will learn about Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism and Buddhism
- Christianity will be taught for 50% of the timetable.
- This is reflected in medium term planning, short term planning and assessment.

Medium term planning will use the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 'fields of enquiry'. Each year group has a key question for them to explore throughout the year. Each half term a new focus question is introduced and is taught using the field of enquiry headings:

- Search for personal meaning
- Shared human experiences
- Living religious traditions
- Beliefs and values

Hinduism, Islam and Christianity are taught progressively across the school. Assessment grids provide guidance for teachers to form age related judgements for RE. The grids enable teachers to be clear of the knowledge, concepts and understanding that should be taught across the school. Sikhism, Judaism and Buddhism are taught within each Key Stage and are not progressive. Pupil books are used to capture the children's learning through photographs and thoughts. Discussion is a crucial part of RE at Dallam Primary School, and this not only allows pupils to share their thoughts and experiences with their peers but allows for teaching assessment. Pupil interviews are used to help inform assessment and the impact of our RE teaching across school.

Impact

Our Religious Education curriculum will allow all children to have a stronger awareness of the world around them and will allow them to be mindful of the beliefs of others. We aim for our children to have secured age-related skills and knowledge before they leave Dallam Community Primary School. In addition, we strive for our children to be knowledgeable about their own personal beliefs, ideas and values so that they can hold informed and well-balanced conversations whilst respecting the views of others.

We endeavour to raise the profile of Religious Education in school by ensuring that we celebrate success and provide a wide range of opportunities for all our children.

Links with other subjects

Although Religious Education is taught as a separate subject, opportunities arise in lessons for children to apply skills from other subject areas. For example: English, art, drama and computing. This ensures that the curriculum is taught in a creative and engaging manner as well as being knowledge rich and ambitious.

Visitors and visits to places of worship

We enrich the curriculum by organising visits to places of worship in the vicinity of the school. Faith leaders and other members of the community are also invited when appropriate to contribute to learning in the classroom as an additional valued resource.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The subject leader will maintain a clear overview of the intent, implementation and impact of Religious Education through planned monitoring tasks included within the school's overall monitoring

schedule. This will involve reporting to SLT and Governors to support their evaluation and contributing to the school's 'self-evaluation' in preparation for the next Ofsted inspection.

It is the statutory duty of the governing body to ensure that:

- Religious Education is included in the basic curriculum and that the school meets its statutory duties.
- Sufficient time and resources are devoted to Religious Education to provide a curriculum of quality.

Withdrawal

We note the Human Right of parents to withdraw their children from Religious Education and of teachers to withdraw from teaching the subject.

We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all pupils, by all staff. Here at Dallam Primary, all children and adults demonstrate respect for diversity and we strongly promote equality through learning about religion and culture in our community. We believe that connections in our community and knowledge of religious diversity will teach our children to respect and empathise with all people in our diverse society.

Teachers are asked to refer to the head teacher any questions from parents about withdrawals. Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RE should be made in writing to the head teacher and a record kept of them.

Named RE subject leader:

Mrs Parfrey May 2025