

**Intent** – We aim to....

Allow children to be confident in their own faiths and build a safe environment for them to speak openly and freely about their beliefs

Ensure children have a secure understanding and knowledge of the key beliefs and practices within the other faiths represented in our school

Ensure children develop the ability to reflect on their own thoughts, beliefs and opinions with empathy.

Foster skills of curiosity, evaluation and critical thinking within Religious Education

Ensure all children engage with a range of people who represent different faiths respectfully

**Implementation** – How do we achieve our intent?

**Our approach :** We use JIGSAW RE as the main spine to our curriculum as it follows our school approach of an overarching key enquiry question followed by sticky knowledge lessons. It promotes vocabulary development, and supports children to build on their prior learning. At Beechwood we have a diverse community of children and therefore we review which religions we teach regularly to ensure we are reflective of the children within our school. Currently each year group focuses on Christianity 3 times a year and one other religion (currently Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Humanism) 3 times a year. The children focus on the key behaviours of a religion e.g commitment, and apply these to their own lives to support them in relating to and respecting each religion, before moving on to learn about the more specific beliefs within the religion.

**Flying Start:** In EYFS the children talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society, learn to show sensitivity to their own and others needs and know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

**Progression:** The children begin by learning the key elements of each religion in the lower school and gradually progress to reflecting on what they know to unpick key beliefs e.g In Key stage 1 they learn the story of the birth of Christ and in year 6 they discuss why it was significant that Mary was chosen to be Jesus' mother.

**Vocabulary:** At Beechwood we acknowledge that we have a diverse intake of children and therefore vocabulary has to be thoroughly taught. We ensure we use the correct terminology right from the start to ensure our children build the correct and respectful vocabulary for each religion. We allow our children who celebrate each religion to be the 'experts' and share correct pronunciations.

**Inclusion:** We recognise that RE is a time where our children who are new to the country have a chance to feel share their own experience of their religion and we use this to give the children a platform within the class. We use widgets, word mats and other scaffolds to support our SEND children throughout their RE learning.

**Assessment**

Each unit has an over-arching enquiry questions which the children then answer at the end of the unit to assess their understanding of the sticky knowledge they have acquire. Children are also assessed throughout each lesson to be sure they have understood the sticky knowledge and have made links to their prior learning.

**Impact** – How do we know we have delivered a successful curriculum?

Children leave Beechwood with a secure knowledge of the Christian faith, including key figures, stories and practices.

Children have a secure understanding and knowledge of key beliefs and practices within the focus faiths they have studied across each key stage.

Children can demonstrate the ability to reflect with their own thoughts, beliefs, opinions and with empathy when answering enquiry questions.

Children can demonstrate curiosity; the ability evaluate information and to think critically when answering questions.

Children can talk respectfully about the religions they have learnt and are respectful members of the community.