

Religious Education Curriculum

Intent

At Beccles Primary Academy, we believe that Religious Education has a significant role in the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourages pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection.

The principle aim of RE is to engage pupils in an enquiry approach where they can develop an understanding and appreciation for the expression of beliefs, cultural practices and influence of principle religions and worldviews in the local, national and wider global community.

The development of knowledge, skills and understanding focuses on two key aspects of learning :

- Learning **about** religion and belief
- Learning **from** religion and belief

Implementation

Religious Education at Beccles Primary Academy, is taught in blocks of learning alongside thematic learning.

Each year group focuses on 6 major religions throughout the year: Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism, Alongside this, the major celebrations within each religion, are studied as close as possible to the date of the event. This enables the children to understand the context surrounding the subject, and make connections with their own personal experiences.

In key stages 1 and 2, children are encouraged to make connections between festivals and religions to better understand the significance of the subject they are studying. RE is taught through open enquiries and practical activities wherever possible, allowing children to become immersed in their learning, and better understand and apply their new knowledge and skills.

In Early Years, Religious education is encompassed through the Understanding of the World, combining People and Communities, The World and Technology. Children begin, and continue, to develop an understanding of religious belief and celebrations through theme-based learning. In addition, we encourage children to reflect on their own beliefs and express their own past experiences through imaginative play.

Impact

By the time children leave Beccles Primary Academy they should be able to:

- Use a developed religious vocabulary and interpret religious symbolism in a variety of forms
- Reflect on questions of meaning, offering their own thoughtful and informed insights into religious and secular world-views
- Explore ultimate questions of beliefs and values in relation to a range of contemporary issues in an ever-changing society.

We measure the effectiveness and impact of our RE Curriculum in a variety of ways:

- Summative assessment – termly assessments take place to track pupils' progress against age related expectations for Religious education.
- Leaders' monitoring – lesson observations; learning walks; book scrutiny, pupil voice.
- Children in the foundation stage are assessed within the EYFS framework and their progress tracked using Tapestry observations.
- Formative assessment – assessment for learning takes place daily and is used to identify individual needs and to inform future planning.