



Together Each
Achieves More



WITHERIDGE
C OF E ACADEMY

Witheridge C of E Primary Academy

RE Policy

This Policy was adopted by the
TEAM Multi Academy Trust
Trustees on

Date 9th February 2017

Signed (on behalf of the Board of Trustees) *Penny Wignall*

Signed (Headteacher) *Rhian Nicholas*

Religious Education Policy

Purpose:

To encourage a reflective approach to living, to bring children to a knowledge and understanding of religion and to contribute to the development of their own beliefs and values through:

- a) Reflecting on those aspects of human experience which give rise to fundamental questions about life.
- b) Studying Christianity and the principal religions represented in Britain.
- c) Developing a sensitivity to spiritual/religious interpretations of human experience.
- d) Encouraging a development and means of expressing their spirituality through collective worship, and being able to reflect on spiritual and moral issue

Religious Education:

The directives in the Devon Agreed Syllabus for R.E. are followed to deliver religious education by providing children with opportunities to reflect on meaning and by developing a progression in each of the two attainment targets via our own two year rolling programme based on the Devon Schemes of work alongside units from the Understanding Christianity resource.

Reflection on meaning includes those essential aspects of the subject which cannot be assessed. Essential outcomes will include:

- recognition of the spiritual dimension in human life;
- awareness of mystery;
- willingness to explore the religious and spiritual experiences of humanity;
- commitment to searching with an open and critical mind;
- increased self understanding;
- use and development of imagination resulting in creative responses;
- expressions of pupils' own beliefs, values and commitments;
- responses to aesthetic and spiritual experiences;
- respecting the importance of the beliefs and values of others;
- respecting personal integrity.

The attainment targets include those aspects of the subject which can be assessed, and these define the expected standards.

There is interaction between attainment targets 1 and 2; pupils are encouraged to:

- appreciate the nature of religion through reflection on themselves and on universal human experiences;
- develop self awareness and an understanding of community through a study of religion.

Attainment target 1; Learning about religion:

- a) Religious belief
- b) Religious practice
- c) Religious language

Attainment target 2; Learning from religion:

- d) Identity and experience
- e) Questions of meaning
- f) Values and commitments

A variety of skills is required and developed in order that children come to appreciate and understand the nature of religion. These skills are often interrelated:

- Reflection
- Enquiry
- Empathy
- Interpretation
- Analysis and evaluation
- Reasoning
- Synthesis
- Communication

These skills are clarified on page 16 Devon Agreed Syllabus.

More specific guidelines:

- Children should be encouraged to focus on the distinctive ways in which people express their understanding and experience of life.
- Where possible, lessons should provide a balance between attainment targets 1 and 2.
- Each lesson should provide a period of reflection.
- Children should be given a focal point when participating in periods of reflection, e.g. a story candle.
- Children should be actively encouraged to respond sensitively towards the beliefs, values and practices of others.
- Activities should challenge all children.
- A variety of resources and approaches should be used.
- Children should be given opportunities to communicate their findings and reflections in a variety of ways.
- Progress is reported annually to parents on the children's reports.
- Time allocation: It is recommended that 5% curriculum time be allocated to the teaching of Religious Education. At least one hour per week is allocated for Religious Education in each class.
- Attainment in RE is assessed both formatively, through written and oral work, and summatively using our school Target Tracker system.