

Brunshaw Primary School



'Inspiring children to be resilient and aspirational learners, within a positive and considerate community.'

Religious Education Policy

Agreed by Governors: 16/05/2024
Reviewed April 2024

Legal Requirements

‘...all state schools...must teach Religious Education to pupils at every Key Stage.’

The National Curriculum in England: Framework document 2013, p4

RE is a subject covered within the school curriculum and is distinct from collective worship which is not counted as curriculum time.

RE takes up 5% of the annual total curriculum time which is delivered in flexible and creative ways.

The Place of the Curriculum

The Agreed Syllabus seeks to support children and young people in reflecting upon, developing and affirming their own beliefs, values and attitudes through the exploration of shared human experience and of the place and significance of religion in the contemporary world.

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

RE is a valued subject which welcomes the difficult questions about life, beliefs, God, right and wrong and what it means to be human. It develops the children's knowledge and understanding of faiths represented in their local community and the wider world. RE allows children to learn about and challenge their own and each other's beliefs and values in an unbiased and safe environment.

Although RE is a distinct subject it makes important contributions to their parts of the curriculum, eg PSHE, SEAL, SMSC as well as developing higher order thinking skills, spiritual development and deep personal development.

Collective Worship

All maintained schools and academies, whether or not they have a religious character, are required to have daily acts of collective worship and to teach religious education as part of their curriculum.

Year R – 6 - All pupils are required to take part in an act of collective worship on each school day. Children under the age of 5 are not required to take part in an act of collective worship but those in reception classes should be included.

Collective worship must take place on school premises and may be held at any time during the school day.

In a community or non-religious foundation school (Brunshaw) the majority of acts of collective worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. That is, the worship must reflect the **broad traditions** of Christian belief without being distinctive of any one Christian denomination.

Collective worship must be appropriate having regard to the family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of the pupils.

Teachers cannot be compelled to lead or participate in collective worship at Brunshaw, but it is the responsibility of the headteacher and governing body to ensure that it takes place.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship

The Aim of Religious Education

The aim of RE is that children:

- Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews
- Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and importance of religions and worldviews
- Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

At the centre of RE at Brunshaw is the question, “What is it to be human?” Through an enquiry based RE curriculum we intend to give the children the skills they need to rationally and intelligently address this and many of the other big questions they will face throughout their lives.

‘Religious Education does not seek to urge religious beliefs on pupil by promoting one religion over another.’

Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016

Implementation of the Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education

The staff at Brunshaw will follow the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016.

Religious Education at Brunshaw will reflect and represent the religions found within the school community. It will also take into account the religions found in the immediate geographical area surrounding the school (locally) and beyond (nationally and globally). The staff at Brunshaw will deliver 3 investigations of Christianity (God, Jesus and the Church) each year. They will also deliver 1 investigation The religions of Buddhism, Judaism and the Sikh Dharam will be taught in the remaining time, throughout the key stages. These religions are referred to as Progressed Religions and will be developed and built on every year a child passes through.

Planning

Planning for Religious Education will follow the format which has been designed to incorporate the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education (2016).

Planning will include the four elements of the Field of Enquiry (Shared Human Experience, Beliefs and Values, Living Religious Traditions and the Search for Personal Meaning). Progression of skills will be ensured by following the skills listed on the Key Learning in Religious Education document (Lancashire Agreed Syllabus 2016). The skills are presented in an Age Related format.

Creative planning makes the RE experience more meaningful and real for the pupils at Brunshaw. However, where the links are tenuous RE will be taught as a stand alone subject for a blocked amount of time. Planning and delivery are creative and a wide variety of approaches are used including visits to sacred places and visitors into school.

Planning will be shared and discussed with parents when requested.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

It is recognised that parents have a right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in its entirety or in part. If a parent chooses to withdraw their child from Religious Education, then arrangements are made for that child to be withdrawn during the lessons by the class teacher in consultation with the Head teacher. It will be requested that the parents present their request for withdrawal in writing to the Head Teacher who will then send this information to SACRE.

Assessment

Teachers are required to assess twice a year. The results of the final assessment task in Year 2 and Year 6 will be sent to Lancashire SACRE (The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education). The number of children working at Year 2 and Year 6 will be requested via the School Portal.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils, irrespective of gender, ethnicity and social circumstances, will have access to the Geography curriculum.

Children with Additional Needs

Children with additional needs including the more able will access all areas of the curriculum through appropriate questioning, differentiated tasks and challenges according to the planning. More able children will be added to the register and supported through teaching and the RE lead.

Inset Provision

Provision for INSET will be timetabled in line with the School Improvement Plan.

Resources

The resources are stored in a central position and include artefacts, books, posters and DVDs. They are being updated continually.

Enrichment

Children will be offered the opportunity to experience school trips out into their community, to feel and see physical buildings alongside having religious specific visitors into school. This is designed to motivate and inspire our children, enabling them to get a better understanding of how other cultures practice their beliefs.

Review Date May 2026