



BROADWATER
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Religious Education Policy (RE) 2025-2028

Turn your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding (Proverbs 2:2)

Broadwater is a Christian School. We will enable children to become wise, confident, successful learners with the motivation, skills and responsibility to make a positive difference in God's world. Our vision is underpinned by the values we live by.

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22

It is this fruit that, in partnership with parents, we will instil in the children of our school.

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Religious Education at Broadwater

The school aims to deliver RE with an enquiry led approach and follows the West Sussex Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. As a church aided school we use 'Understanding Christianity' which is diocesan resource, to support children with developing key concepts of the Christian faith.

Through our RE units we aim to help pupils develop an understanding of the beliefs that reflect the modern world that they are part of. Lessons are designed to help children to develop knowledge and understanding of the major religious faiths of Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism alongside other world views.

Aims of the Local Agreed Syllabus

The syllabus aims to provide pupils with the substantive and disciplinary knowledge to understand the significance of religions and worldviews to allow them to develop their own personal insights understanding and the skills required to engage with the subject matter

The aims set out below are also to develop the skills needed to engage with the subject matter to enable pupils to know and understand about religion and worldviews.

A. Knowledge and Understanding

- Describe and explain beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities.
- Identify, discuss and respond to sources of wisdom found in religions and worldviews.
- Investigate the nature and diversity of religious practices, ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

B. Application and Interpretation

- Interpret key concepts and ideas and apply them to questions of belonging, meaning and truth, expressing their own ideas and opinions.
- Draw conclusions about what enables different communities to live together respectfully for the well-being of all.
- Articulate clearly learning about beliefs, values and commitments and explain why they may be important in pupils' own and other people's lives.

C. Analysis and Evaluation

- Justify their own 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.
- Appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion linking these to British values.

Aims of the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement.

As a Church Aided School we seek to provide a high quality RE curriculum in line with the expectations of the Church of England RE Statement of Entitlement which states that:

"All pupils are entitled to religious education that is delivered in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner. Pupils are entitled to a balanced RE curriculum which enquires into religions and worldviews through theology, philosophy and the human and the social sciences."

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Aims and objectives

- To know about and understand Christianity as a diverse global living faith through the exploration of core beliefs using an approach that critically engages with biblical text.
- To gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- To engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- To recognise the concept of religion and its continuing influence on Britain's cultural heritage and in the lives of individuals and societies in different times, cultures and places.
- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking.

Organisation

This considers the recommended balance of curriculum time for Christianity and other world faiths. Within our lessons, we build in opportunities to discuss, recognise and respect that others may have differing points of view, beliefs or worldviews.

- Early Years are introduced to religion through Christianity.
- Within Key Stage 1, children will be taught Christianity and introduced to Islam and Hinduism.
- In lower Key Stage 2, children will be taught Christianity and introduced to Judaism.
- In upper Key Stage 2, children will be taught Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and worldviews, such as Humanism.

Religious Education is taught through discrete RE units.

As a Church Aided School, additional time is given to RE through assemblies and a range of special occasions assemblies. These include Christmas Productions, Easter, Remembrance and Harvest Celebrations. For example, a year group who are who are leading the Easter celebrations will spend more time exploring the RE concepts and ideas involved as part of their preparation for leading Whole School worship. Day to day collective worship is seen as separate to RE lessons.

Withdrawal

Should a request be made that a child be withdrawn from Religious Education, parents are asked to put in writing the beliefs and practices they wish their child be excluded from. Pupils will be provided with additional work, such as topic work, which will be completed in another area of the classroom. This time must not be used for catching up or finishing work.

Assessment arrangements

Teachers use a variety of means of assessing pupils work in line with the whole school assessment policy.

This includes:

- The regular reviewing of pupils' work in line with the marking policy.

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- Teachers assess pupils' learning throughout each unit. This may be done in a variety of ways including: pupil voice, class evidence book and work marked against success criteria.
- Pupils may be given the opportunity to assess their own learning at the end of a significant unit.
- Pupil's achievement in RE is reported in the annual report to parents.

Resources

Reference books are available for staff use.

Books, artefacts and other resources are available from the RE resource boxes. Understanding Christianity resources are also available in a folder or digitally. A range of RE books are in the library.

The school has very good links with local churches, which support the school. Visits to local churches can be arranged through the Office.

Responsibility for subject

Class teacher

- To identify and monitor progress in Religious Education.
- To implement medium term planning by incorporating adapted, challenging and purposeful tasks.
- Using a varied range of resources to encourage curiosity, interest and enjoyment wherever possible.
- To ensure the work being covered is appropriate and sensitive to pupils regardless of whether they come from a religious background or not.

Subject Leader/Subject Team

- To understand the requirements of the RE Guidelines for Church of England Aided Schools set out from the Diocese of Chichester alongside the Religious Education in Church of England Schools: A Statement of Entitlement
- To keep up to date with current initiatives within Religious Education and to attend appropriate courses.
- To lead in the preparation and review of policy documents, curriculum plans and schemes of work for Religious Education
- To provide support in the development of schemes of work, medium term plans, assessment and adaptation.
- To manage the purchasing, collection, evaluation and organisation of resources.
- To annually prepare an action plan for the development of Religious Education.
- In partnership with the Head teacher and Leadership and Management team, be responsible for the monitoring and evaluating of Religious Education.
- To lead INSET and staff meetings as and when necessary on aspects of the development in Religious Education
- To provide exemplar lessons for teachers to watch in Religious Education.