



Vision

Providing the rich soil that enables our children to develop deep roots and flourish

Intent

Religious education in a Church school such as ours should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live well together. At Amberley, such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person. The aim of RE at Amberley Parochial Primary School is to develop an understanding about what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living. This aim lies in line with the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE 2017 – 2022, and the CoE Statement of Entitlement (2019).

Implementation

Jesus told the Parable of the Sower to illustrate how those who hear the Word of God and are open to it, go forth to grow in strength and have the ability to further spread His News. We use the Parable of the Sower to unite our school community in its understanding of what we hope to achieve. We believe that Amberley Parochial school offers the 'fertile soil' needed for all to be able to develop deep roots and flourish. Building on these themes, RE in our school contributes to the outworking of our vision by offering children rich opportunities to develop an accurate knowledge and understanding of religions and world views, as is our duty, and all Church schools. Within a high-quality sequential religious education programme of study, a wide range of imaginative teaching methods and pupil groupings ensure effective RE sessions. RE is considered an academic subject and is delivered in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner. We follow the locally agreed syllabus for RE and teach in accordance with the Trust deed. We appreciate the positive impact that local faith communities can have on pupils' experience in RE. Therefore, this school encourages visits to places of worship and welcomes visitors from different faith communities. We recognise it is vitally important that teachers demonstrate respectful attitudes towards all faiths, modelling the attitudes and responses we would expect from our pupils. As identified in the CoE Statement of Entitlement, teaching and learning in RE in this school will provide:

- A challenging and robust curriculum based on an accurate theological framework.
- An assessment process which has rigour and demonstrates progression based on knowledge and understanding of core religious concepts.
- A curriculum that draws on the richness and diversity of religious experience worldwide.
- A pedagogy that instils respect for different views and interpretations; and, in which real dialogue and theological enquiry takes place.
- The opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of the religion and world views as lived by believers.
- RE that makes a positive contribution to SMSC development

Impact

As a school, we strive to ensure our children's progress is in line with or exceeds national expectations, whatever their starting point in primary education. Learning activities provide fully for the needs of all pupils. Pupils develop a wide range of skills including enquiry, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and reflection, and have a safe space to explore their own religious, spiritual and/or philosophical ways of seeing, living and thinking, believing and belonging. They have opportunities to engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of all religions and worldviews.

We aim to ensure that all pupils, on leaving Amberley Parochial School, will:

- 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.
- have gained sufficient knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews to appreciate diversity, continuity and change within the religions and worldviews being studied.
- engage with challenging questions of meaning and purpose raised by human existence and experience.
- 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.
- explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking.

How we support children with Special Educational Needs in this subject area:

The RE curriculum is intrinsic to the outworking of our school's Christian vision in enabling all pupils to flourish. We believe all pupils should have the opportunity to learn to the best of their capabilities through a broad and balanced, inclusive curriculum. This means that every child, including those with a Special Educational Need, should have access to a high standard of 'Quality First Teaching' throughout the day in every curriculum subject. Teachers use a range of teaching and learning styles and appropriate learning objectives are set for all children with a curriculum matched to their needs.

In RE, our pupils with a Special Educational Need are supported using a variety of methods that allow them to access their learning. Consideration of how understanding is presented and recorded will enable all children to access the curriculum and make continued progress. Work in RE takes into account the targets set for individual children in their individual education plans (My Plans). Access arrangements might also include classroom-organisation and grouping, visual resources, memory aids, pre-learning of key vocabulary and concepts, and in some cases 1:1 and personalized teaching.