

# LONG FURLONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

### Legal Requirements

- The 1996 Education Act requires that schools have to provide Religious Education for all pupils, from Foundation Stage (F1) to Year 6.
- As a County School, Religious Education at Long Furlong will be provided in accordance with the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus (2007).
- RE should be in the main Christian, whilst taking into account the teaching and practices of the other principal religions presented in Great Britain.
- The Nursery class is exempt from RE requirements. However, effective educational practice in the nursery provides experiences which contribute to later work in religious education and also enhance pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional development.

### The Value of RE

- RE encourages a reflective approach to living, a knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices, and a development of personal skills in forming reasoned opinions, based on evidence and argument. RE helps pupils to understand our multi-faith society.
- RE contributes to the Every Child Matters outcomes.
- RE promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional development.
- RE promotes citizenship education.
- RE aims to be an inclusive experience for pupils from all kinds of backgrounds, both religious and secular.

### Aims

- To meet the two attainment targets outlined in the Agreed Syllabus that apply to Long Furlong School:  
AT1 Learning About Religion  
AT2 Learning From Religion
- To promote the four key attitudes that relate to RE of respect for all, open-mindedness, self awareness, appreciation and wonder.

### Agreed Syllabus

- We are required to study the following religions, although not all aspects of these religions will be studied at Primary School:  
**Foundation Stage (F1/2/3)** – Christianity and the appropriate selection of other material.  
**Key Stage One** – Christianity and aspects of Islam and Judaism.  
**Key Stage Two** - Christianity and aspects of Islam, Judaism and Hinduism.

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- The school selects the details of what is taught regarding these religions from the Agreed Syllabus. Within this, there are a number of themes taught (outlined below), all of which will be covered by the end of each Key Stage:

#### Key Stage 1

1. Believing
2. Story
3. Celebrations
4. Symbols
5. Leaders and Teachers
6. Belonging
7. Myself

#### Key Stage 2

1. Beliefs and Questions
2. Teachings and Authority
3. Worship, Pilgrimage and Sacred Places
4. Journey of Life and Death
5. Symbols and Religious Expression
6. Inspirational People
7. Religion and the Individual
8. Religion, Family and Community
9. Beliefs in Action

#### **The Role of the RE Co-ordinator**

- To be conversant with the Oxfordshire Agreed syllabus for Religious Education and to keep abreast of developments on a county and national level in the teaching of RE concerning Long Furlong School.
- To liaise with staff, provide a supportive role and disseminate information about new developments.
- To help staff develop an increasing awareness of the Agreed Syllabus and its requirements.
- To monitor the RE programme. This will be achieved in a variety of ways for example, the checking and evaluating of planning and looking at pupils' work.
- To maintain a resource bank which will enhance the teaching of RE.
- To control the annual expenditure for resources.

#### **Right of withdrawal**

At Long Furlong School we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from religious education on the grounds of conscience. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the Head Teacher in the first instance to discuss any concerns they may have about the policy, provision and practice of religious education at Long Furlong School.

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