



## Curriculum Aims



### Subject – Religious Education

#### **Aims & content of the religious education curriculum at Mount Primary**

At Mount Primary school we select ideas from the programmes of study from the Wirral Agreed syllabus. We aim to prepare pupils for the spiritual and intellectual challenges of living in a world with diverse religions and beliefs as well as non-belief. This starts at the foundation stage, where children are taught about the concept of God through the Christian belief in one God and the concept of salvation before exploring the relationship between humans and God. Links are made to other religious beliefs by learning about other religions' stories and festivals. This is built upon throughout KS1, where children learn about Christianity in more depth by learning more about the life of Jesus Christ, as recorded in the Bible, as well as the traditions and practices of the Christian community. Links are made to the Jewish and Islamic religions through learning about the Jewish concept of Mitzvah and by exploring the concept of mercy and compassion in the stories of Muhammad. Pupils develop their understanding of key Christian concepts throughout KS2 by studying reconciliation, the cross as a symbol of sacrifice, the importance of the Gospels, the incarnation and the resurrection. Other religions are studied in more depth by: learning about the signs and symbols of the Jewish faith and their concept of holiness; the Islamic concept of submission to Allah and the importance of Tawhid to the Islamic community; the Hindu story of Rama and Sita and the belief in the concept of Brahman and Atman; the importance of the teaching of the Gurus to the Sikh faith; the Buddhist belief in the concept of god and their belief in the Triple Refuge and the humanist belief in how to achieve a happy life without religion.

The RE curriculum aims to build up the progression of knowledge beginning with Christianity as the main religion studied as children are more likely to have experience of some Christian concepts through the traditional Christian festivals that are celebrated. However, we want the children at Mount Primary to be aware of different viewpoints from the beginning so links are made to other religions during these topics. Christianity continues to be the main religion taught in KS1 to further build upon the children's experiences and previous knowledge. Judaism and Islam are taught in more depth. These are also monotheistic religions which allow comparisons to Christianity. Learning about these faiths raises the children's awareness of religious and cultural differences to prepare them for life in a diverse society. The children's experiences and knowledge are further built upon in KS2 with more in depth learning about aspects of the Christian faith together with the opportunity to build upon previous learning about Judaism and Islam. In addition, they learn about other faiths that are not based on monotheism as well as learning about the concept of no faith in deities in Humanism. In this way, children at Mount Primary are given a rich range of RE education about different beliefs that develop respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own, which helps to combat prejudice. In considering the values and beliefs of others it also enables the children to explore their own beliefs relevant to their lives.

#### **How do you know children have learned that knowledge?**

At Mount Primary School, opportunities are built in to revisit key concepts across religions such as the belief in god, as well as building upon their knowledge of different aspects of a particular religion. Prior knowledge is assessed at the beginning of each unit to enable gaps to be addressed and ensure progression of knowledge. Knowledge is assessed formatively throughout the unit and knowledge mats are used to assess knowledge at the end of a unit of work. Opportunities to link to other areas of the curriculum are made where appropriate such as looking at the religious beliefs of the people in the past in history and looking at the different religious traditions in MFL .

**How the Religious Education curriculum caters for all learners?**

At Mount Primary school teachers plan differentiation into the units of work to enable all learners to access the curriculum. Children are supported by the use of extra resources or by different outcomes, where necessary, as well as extra input and feedback during lessons. Pupils are challenged by open ended activities allowing them to show and develop their own understanding.

**How does your content selection develop pupils' cultural capital? (knowledge they need to become educated citizens – introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and to appreciate human creativity and achievement).**

At Mount Primary school, all year groups are taught about the Christian religion as the main religion of the country in which they live. However, throughout all year groups we learn about the beliefs and traditions of other religions and make links with the pupils' own lives and beliefs. This helps them to develop their own understanding of the British value of tolerance for each other's differences. When teaching the different religions we look at where the religions originated and look at the wider world view, improving the pupils' understanding of the world and different cultures. Opportunities to visit local places of worship and to meet with people of different beliefs are used to further their understanding.