

Upton Westlea Primary School

R.E. Policy



Approved by staff: January 2016

Signed: K Carruthers

Approved by Governors: January 2016

Signed: J Houlbrook

Review Date: January 2019

Upton Westlea Religious Education Policy

At Upton Westlea our Religious Education fosters co-operation, self-confidence, independence and tolerance in our multicultural world. We value the opinions of every religious and non religious belief equally, recognising and celebrating every child in each class.

The Legal Position

Upton Westlea School, in accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act, provides Religious Education for all pupils registered at the school. Religious Education is part of the basic curriculum but not part of the National Curriculum because it is taught in accordance with a locally agreed syllabus (in our case the *Cheshire West and Chester Council Agreed Syllabus*). We must stress that Religious Education has the same status and importance as any other subject and the same high standards are applied to Religious Education as to all other subjects. We teach Religious Education according to the aims of the Cheshire West and Chester Council Agreed Syllabus.

The Aims

The aims of Religious Education are drawn from the Cheshire Agreed Syllabus and should enable pupils to:

- Appreciate the distinctive nature of religion and the important contribution of religious and spiritual insights and values to **some** individual's search for meaning in their life.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and of other principle religions represented in Great Britain, whilst valuing the beliefs of other world view perspectives.
- Develop interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and world views in order to enhance their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.
- Apply the lesson ideas to their own personal experiences to cultivate philosophical thinking skills.

Planning and Delivery

Religious Education will be taught as outlined in the Cheshire West and Cheshire syllabus. It will provide opportunities for children to develop the following skills and attitudes:

Skills: Investigation, Empathy, Synthesis, Interpretation, Evaluation, Application, Reflection, Analysis, Expression.

Attitudes: Commitment, Fairness, Respect, Self-understanding, Enquiry, Tolerance.

Assessment and Record Keeping

At present there is no nationally laid down assessment framework. End of Key Stage statements will be used to judge the extent to which pupils' attainment relates to expected levels. These will be included on the end of year report.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

Parents may withdraw their child from Religious Education provided they give written notification to the school. Teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from teaching the subject. However, we hope that all parents and teachers would feel comfortable with the type of Religious Education being taught at Upton Westlea and engage fully in supporting British values, especially those of tolerance and understanding for which our country is highly regarded.

Reviewed in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus for RE September 2013,
January 2016 by Kim Carver.
Review date due January 2019