

Brackenwood Infant School



Religious Education

		Name	Signature	Name	Signature
Date Adopted					
Review Date					

RE POLICY OVERVIEW

At Brackenwood Infant School we are committed to providing RE opportunities that allow all children to develop their own beliefs and values and to promote the virtues of respect and empathy which are so important in our school and in our diverse society. We create learning environments and relationships that nurture our children and fosters civilised debated and reasoned argument and helps our children to understand the place of religion and belief in the modern world.

The structure of our RE curriculum is informed by current national guidance including the **September 2018 final report of the Commission on RE in England** and the **Wirral Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and Worldviews 2019**. All our children will learn about religion in order to learn from religion. Our RE teaching will enhance and intertwine with our National Curriculum subject teaching to support our children in becoming positive members of our community. Their understanding of the world around them will deepen and they will become well equipped for the next steps in their lives.

INTENT

Our Religious Education will:

- 1.** Adopt an enquiry based approach beginning with the children's own life experiences before moving into learning about and from religion
- 2.** Provoke challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, and issues of right and wrong, commitment and belonging
- 3.** Develop children's knowledge and understanding of Christianity and some other principal religions and religious traditions that examine challenging questions and foster personal reflection and spiritual development
- 4.** Be planned, structured and delivered so that learning is continuous and enables all children to make good progress.
- 5.** Encourage our children to explore their own beliefs whether they are religious or non-religious, in the light of what they learn. At their own levels of intellectual and spiritual development they will examine issues of religious belief and faith and how these impact on personal, institutional and social ethics and to express their responses.
- 6.** Enable our children to build their sense of identity and belonging which then helps them flourish within their communities as citizens of a diverse society
- 7.** Teach pupils to develop respect for others including people with different faiths and beliefs and help to challenge prejudice
- 8.** Prompt pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society
- 9.** Develop a sense of awe, wonder and mystery about the world around them whilst making links between learning
- 10.** Nurture our children's own spiritual development

IMPLEMENTATION

- 1.** RE is taught to all our children. regardless of their faith or belief, their individual needs or barriers to learning. They will all be given the opportunities to learn about religion in order to learn from religion.
- 2.** Our RE subject expertise will focus on the Big Ideas as outlined in the Wirral SACRE and will be planned and delivered using resources from the enquiry based RE Discovery Programme from Foundation 2 to the end of Year 2. This will be supplemented with Plan Bee RE in Key Stage 1.
- 3.** Learning is defined as 'an alteration in long term memory,' and as such teaching strategies are used that allow both semantic and episodic memories to be made.
- 4.** Metacognition and independent learning strategies are included in the teaching and learning of RE.
- 5.** EYFS children will have Teacher led RE Discovery short weekly sessions.
- 6.** Key Stage 1 children will have one full day a half term to deepen their understanding of RE. These days are called 'Enquiry Days,' and are led by teachers using the enquiry approach of RE Discovery. In addition, they will have weekly lessons covering knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other religions using Plan Bee RE resources led by HLTAs

7. The planning and resources of both RE Discovery and Plan Bee ensure that RE Subject Specific expertise are taught progressively from EYFS to year 2
8. EYFS children will learn knowledge about Christianity and share stories from other religions.
9. In Key Stage 1 Children will continue to learn about Christianity and a range of other religions due to the limited religious experiences that our children have.
10. Each enquiry starts from the children's own life experiences using these as a bridge into the investigation of the religion being studied
11. Inclusivity is part of the philosophy of the RE Discovery programme and whilst Our Teachers will tailor each enquiry to meet the needs of their children there are also varied resources to support this differentiation including creative learning activities allowing children to choose the media with which they work and give them scope to work to their full potential. Each enquiry also has level exemplars for the full range likely for our age group.
12. The school assessment policy and strategy is used effectively to ensure that all pupils including those with SEND are making good progress and achieving the highest standards for their ability.
13. RE lessons will ensure children are provided with opportunities to identify questions and define enquiries using a range of methods, media and resources. They will carry out and develop their enquiries by gathering, comparing, interpreting and analysing a range of information, ideas and viewpoints. The children will then present their findings, suggest interpretations, express ideas and feelings and develop arguments. They will evaluate their learning by using empathy, critical thought and reflection, In particular the children will be encouraged to consider how this learning might apply to their own and other's lives,
14. In order to establish a safe, open and positive learning environment at Brackenwood Infants we emphasise the importance of respecting each other's views and beliefs and those of the believes of the religion. All artefacts are handled with respect and care.
15. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Religious Education and those wishing to exercise this right are invited to explore any concerns with the Head Teacher and discuss any impact the withdrawal may have on their child. School will accordingly follow our duty to advise Wirral Standing Advisory Council on RE regarding the numbers of children being withdrawn.

IMPACT

All children will benefit from a rich, broad and balanced RE curriculum and which is appropriate for their ages, abilities and interests. Through our teaching of RE and Worldviews we will systematically help to prepare our children for the spiritual and intellectual challenges of living in a world with diverse religions and beliefs as well as non-belief. They will develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, Judaism and Islam and through this start to develop their own beliefs, ideas, practices, values and identities. They will also start to understand how religions and beliefs are woven into and influenced by human experiences. RE will also help our children to develop as responsible citizens of changing local, national and world communities. We recognise that our teaching of RE is an opportunity for our children to gain a greater understanding and tolerance of all religions and non-religious worldviews and so improve their relationships in their different communities and society. RE at Brackenwood Infants promotes and ethos of respect for others, challenging stereotypes and contributes to our school ethos that champions our individual rights.

Revised and adopted by the Governing BodyReview Date.....
 Signed by Cof G