



# ***Morelands Primary School***

## ***Religious Education Policy 2019-20***

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### **Morelands Primary School – Religious Education Policy 2019**

In Religious Education, we study the diversity of the world and different religious beliefs and practices. We follow the Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight agreed syllabus, 'Living Difference III' which encapsulates the key religions represented in the UK.

#### **What is this syllabus for?**

The Education Act 2002 states that:

- RE is a statutory subject to be taught in all schools except nursery schools
- RE in all community, foundation and voluntary controlled schools should be taught in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus
- parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons -see section below for further information\*
- each county/council must have a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)
- the agreed syllabus for RE must reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the other principal religions represented in the country
- SACRE should review its agreed syllabus every five years.

#### *\*Withdrawal from RE*

*Parents have the right to withdraw their children from parts or all of the RE curriculum. We hope however that in the first instance School would be able to discuss with parents their particular concerns.*

The model starts with an enquiry into a big idea (the concept) and then uses this knowledge to develop understanding within the sphere of a particular religious story or way of life. Children are then encouraged to reflect on the importance of the big idea to believers of the faith being studied. The cycle finally moves on to its last two phases, which involve the children reflecting on the big idea both for themselves and for others.

#### **Religious Education at Morelands - what we teach:**

At Morelands Primary School, we look at key concepts and ideas surrounding Christianity and each class has a focus world religion that is also studied.

Butterflies focus on the important ideas of Christianity and begin to talk about Judaism.

Year 1/2 look at key aspects of Christianity and Judaism.

Year 3/4 study significant areas of Christianity and Hinduism.

Year 5/6 deepen their understanding of Christianity and the Islamic faith.

The Living Difference III syllabus is a concept based approach, looking at concepts that are common to all people, concepts that are shared by many religions and concepts that are distinctive to particular religions. As children move through primary school, they will have the opportunities over time to engage with all three groups of concepts.

Much of the RE taught at Morelands is carried out through exploration of children's ideas of concepts and emphasis is given to positive outlooks and quality discussion. Our religious education curriculum provides a range of world religions; it is designed to give children opportunities to develop concepts and skills to develop their own beliefs, and understand the beliefs and practices of members of faith communities through open minded, fair enquiry. Our teaching is based around the enquiry model from "Living Difference III" – This teaching is cyclic in nature, following "communicate, apply, enquire, contextualise and evaluate".

Indoctrination and conversion are not part of the education process and have no place in religious education. Religion at Morelands Primary follows the framework provided by Hampshire County Council and is an educational subject as part of the National Curriculum, taught as required by law.