



Religion and World Views Policy

At Grasslot Infant School we want our children to develop their knowledge and understanding of a range of religious and non-religious worldviews*, which not only reflects the local community but will also prepare pupils for the religious and belief diversity in Britain and the wider world; supporting our pupils to engage deeply with the questions raised by the study of worldviews to enable pupils to reflect on and develop their own personal worldviews.

Our school is situated in a rural area which means we are a considerable distance away from some faith communities and places of worship. We feel it is important for our children to be given ample opportunities to learn about and be exposed to different cultures and religious beliefs.

Aims and Objectives.

Pupils are taught:

- Knowledge and understanding of religion and worldviews
- Expression and communication of ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religion and worldviews
- Gain and deploy skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews

Our religion and worldviews curriculum make a distinctive and significant contribution to our children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. We actively encourage our children to express their own personal beliefs, ideas and values whilst respecting the rights of others to have different views, values and ways of life.

Content

Religion and Worldviews is taught from EYFS to Year 2. We teach Christianity as our main Religion and Hinduism as our other World faith. The whole school long term plan ensures breadth, balance, continuity and progression. We have used the Cumbria Agreed Syllabus for RE to support our learning. In EYFS children focus on religious celebrations, Christianity and other festivals. Christianity, Hinduism and non-religious Worldviews are taught in Year 1 and 2. Knowledge is revisited and deepened as children progress up through the school, with age appropriate themes and big questions imbedded in our Religion and Worldviews curriculum.

We teach Religion and Worldviews through enquiry and knowledge-based learning, exploratory talk, dialogue and our debating curriculum. We have a flexible approach to the delivery of our Religion and Worldviews curriculum. In EYFS, learning starts with experiences and events which relate to the children and their immediate families with opportunities to develop spiritually, morally and to strengthen their understanding of culture planned and delivered through ongoing high quality EYFS provision. From Year 1 onwards delivery of the curriculum may be taught in weekly lessons, blocks of longer lessons or Religion and Worldview days according to the Long Term Plans for the year.

Religious Education is a compulsory subject for us to teach and we have made best efforts to create a curriculum that meets the needs of all our children. However, parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education- please arrange to speak to our headteacher if you wish to discuss this further.

The Curriculum at Grasslot School:

In EYFS

Religion and Worldviews are integrated into the EYFS Prime areas of Communication and Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development in addition to the specific area of Understanding the World: People and Communities. Children in Grasslot School listen and talk about stories, are introduced to subject specific words and use all their sense to explore beliefs, practices and forms of expression, they ask questions and reflect on their own feelings and experiences and use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation of and wonder of the world they live.

In Key Stage 1

A Our pupils are taught to know about and understand Christian, Hindu and world views, to:

A1 Recall and name beliefs and practices, including festivals, rituals and ways of life, in order to find out about the meanings behind them

A2 Recall and suggest meanings to some religious and moral stories, exploring and discussing sacred writings and sources of wisdom and recognising the communities from which they come

A3 Recognise some different symbols and actions which express a community's way of life, appreciating some similarities between communities

See our RE Curriculum map for coverage.

Collective Worship

Throughout the week as a whole school we gather together to take part in collective worship. We read and explore a variety of different stories from various religions and world views and allow the children to explore their own personal views and ideas. We use candles as a focus of our collective worship and at the end sing or pray together.

Resources

Our main resource is experience and ourselves. We organise visits to our local church for celebrations and services ie. Christingles. We invite representatives of local religious groups to come into school and work with the children. During our Cultural days/ weeks we invite people into school of different religion and culture to work with children ie. Divali day. Children are given opportunities to experience different cultures and traditions through food tasting, trying on traditional dress. We have built up our own collection of resources, music, clothing, artefacts and books to enrich and support children's learning about Religion and World Views.

Coordination, monitoring and review

The subject leader aims to keep up to date with new publications and developments in the teaching of Religion and Worldviews. She will attend training and inform other members of staff of any new updates and organise events and celebrations in school.

Assessment, reporting and recording

Children are assessed in EYFS termly using the Development Matters statements and at the end of Reception using the Early Learning Goals. The areas which link to Religion and World Views are Communication and Language, Personal and Social Development and Understanding the World.

In Key Stage One we assess our children using the Attainment Targets for Religious Education. We collect formative assessments throughout the year and report on these at the end of Key Stage One.

Evidence for this is collected on Tapestry.

* What is a worldview? A worldview is a person's way of understanding, experiencing and responding to the world. It can be described as a philosophy of life or an approach to life. This includes how a person understands the nature of reality and their own place in the world. A person's worldview is likely to influence and be influenced by their beliefs, values, behaviours, experiences, identities and commitments.