



Stamford Green Primary School

Religious Education Policy

Agreed at (please indicate with a*):

- Full Governing Body Meeting _____
- Children and Learning Committee Meeting _____*
- Resources Committee Meeting _____

Date: 11.3.19

Religious Education Policy Contents

Section	Page Number
Introduction	3
Aims and Objectives	3 - 4
Policy	4 - 5

Religious Education Policy

1. Introduction

- a) Stamford Green Primary School, in accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act, provides Religious Education (RE) for all pupils registered at the school, except for those withdrawn at the wish of their parents. RE 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 Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools, 2017-2022*).
- b) At Stamford Green Primary School we acknowledge the important part that RE plays in the 'wider' curriculum and in the development of the whole child. Staff will be encouraged to have an enthusiastic involvement in their teaching of RE and to see it as an important dimension of human life.
- c) This policy has been written to ensure that RE, at Stamford Green Primary School, is planned and meets the needs of the children and follows the Surrey Agreed Syllabus 2017 - 2022.

2. The importance of RE:

- a) It provokes challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.
- b) It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other principal religions, and belief traditions that examine these questions, fostering personal reflection and spiritual development.
- c) It encourages pupils and students to explore their own beliefs (religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of faith and belief and how these impact on personal, institutional and social ethics; and to express their responses.
- d) It builds resilience to anti-democratic or extremist narratives and enables pupils and students to build their sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society.
- e) It teaches pupils and students to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs and helps to challenge prejudice.
- f) It prompts pupils and students to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.

3. Aims and Objectives

To enable pupils to:

- a) Demonstrate an appreciation of the nature of religion and belief and the important contribution of religious and spiritual insights and values to the individual's search for

meaning in life, whilst acknowledging that this may also come from a non-religious perspective.

- b) Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and of the other principal religions and beliefs represented in Great Britain, both through their history and their contemporary diverse expressions.
- c) Develop interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and beliefs and enhance their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- d) Develop the ability to make reasoned, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues.
- e) Recognise the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on the individual, on culture and on communities throughout the world.

4. Principles of Teaching and Learning within RE:

- a) Children need to develop their own beliefs and values and a consistent pattern of behaviour.
- b) RE has an important contribution to make to the personal and social development of pupils.
- c) The teaching of RE must reflect the ages and abilities of the pupils.
- d) RE will help children to explore a range of religious beliefs and practices related to human experiences.
- e) RE makes a major contribution to multicultural education.
- f) RE makes no assumptions about the personal commitments of staff or pupils.
- g) In RE, the role of the teacher is that of the educator.

5. Local community links and out of school visits

- a) We will seek to use our school and local community links to promote and extend classroom learning. Trips to local places of worship, including nearby churches, temples, mosques and synagogues will aim to bring pupil's learning 'to life'.

6. Assessment of RE

- a) Assessments of RE concerns what pupils know, understand and can do. It will not measure subjective areas such as children's beliefs, attitudes and behaviour.
- b) Assessment is not subject to nationally prescribed attainment targets and assessment procedures. Stamford Green Primary School will follow the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools 2017-2022, which is divided into two distinct but complementary areas: **knowledge and understanding** and **expressing ideas, beliefs and insights**.

7. Withdrawal from RE

It is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child from RE lessons. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

8. Equal Opportunities

In the teaching of RE, the needs of all pupils will be addressed irrespective of ability, race, or gender excepting those whose parents chose to withdraw them.

This policy should also be read in conjunction with the Collective Worship Policy.