

HAMPDEN GURNEY

Church of England Primary School

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Hampden Gurney School **Religious Education Policy**

Aim:

Religious Education in Hampden Gurney School is Christian-based. The underlying concern is the development of pupils as individuals whom God loves and the sense of self-worth that this knowledge fosters. Hampden Gurney School is part of the Voluntary Aided Church School of the parish of The Annunciation, Marble Arch, following the teachings of the Church of England.

Objectives:

An awakening of religious awareness through daily assemblies, weekly school Mass and direct class teaching. These are considered to be the bedrock of our shared life together. Under the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement (2010) children in church schools are to be educated in world religions. In Hampden Gurney's current context the focus is on Judaism and Islam.

Skills, knowledge and concepts:

The children are taught:

- to know that we are all God's children (Relationships)
- awareness of self-worth, and personal uniqueness and identity
- the major religious festivals of the Christian year
- the awareness that life involves choices: right and wrong; good and evil
- some of the traditions of Judaism and Islam

Principles of Learning:

Religion is to be presented in two ways – explicit and implicit.

Explicit is directed subject teaching as in collective worship (school mass) and assemblies, school Mass, class lessons and as a topic based item as in major religious festivals such as Christmas and Easter. At all times care is taken to avoid indoctrination and biblical fundamentalism. The school recognises significant events for other cultures, such as Chinese New Year, and throughout the curriculum there are opportunities to explore other cultures and faiths. Children are encouraged to share their own experiences of religion, whatever their culture and faith.

Implicit is through family, experience and observation of nature, the community, and Biblical words and stories.

Cross Curricular links:

Religion is involved in all curriculum areas i.e. English, Art/craft, Design & Technology, ICT, Music, PSHCE, SMSC and Humanities. Religious Education is part of the topic work adopted at Hampden Gurney School. Culture and religion are intertwined in all aspects of learning and teaching.

Time Allocation:

Religion forms at least 5% of classroom work including specific RE lessons and topic work integrated with other curriculum subjects. Specific times are also set out for assemblies and Mass.

Right of Withdrawal

In accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act, parents are allowed to withdraw children from religious education classes if they wish, although this should only be done once the parents have discussed with the school, and given written notice to the school governors.

Resources and Professional Development:

Hampden Gurney School uses a Christian-based curriculum for all classes. Teaching of other faiths will use appropriate resources approved by the London Diocesan Board for Schools and/or the parish priest. The School provides relevant teaching learning resources at all levels. Additional materials for teachers include ICT software, other topical resources, Christian signs and symbols of Christianity and those of other faiths especially as they relate to festivals religions festivals other than Easter and Christmas.

Professional development is available for the R.E. co-ordinator who will disseminate information and materials to the rest of the staff. The Priest in charge of the Church of the Annunciation provides the R.E. support and pastoral care to all staff and the whole school community.

Assessment and Record Keeping:

Record keeping and assessment should be done in several ways. The children are assessed through topic work, through cross-curricular links, especially in PSHCE and SMSC work, and specific R.E. lessons and the related attainment targets.

Methods of assessment include:

- Observations
- Formal and informal assessment for learning and of learning
- One-to-one conference
- Discussions and
- Scrutiny of written work
- Lesson observations

It is not the teacher's role to assess the belief and faith of the pupil.

Role of the Coordinator:

- To initiate school based professional development and use of the facilities available from Westminster and the London Diocese;
- To support and guide all teachers whether in collective worship, assembly or in classroom;
- To ensure that R.E. resources are available to support the curriculum;
- To monitor standards of delivery R.E. curriculum, quality of teaching and learning and overall assessment of R.E. in the school; and
- To liaise with R.E. Governor, Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Annunciation, parents and other relevant bodies as necessary to the smooth running of religious education in the school.

AT1 Acquiring Knowledge

Pupils should develop a knowledge of the beliefs, practices and history of Christianity and other religions (Judaism and Islam) through investigation, discussion and inquiry.

KS1

Pupils are taught to:

- Be aware of public and private worship in the Christian church.
- Know that the church is used for public events such as marriages and funerals.
- Have an understanding of the importance of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ and Christian communion.
- Have an understanding of some of the basic elements of the Jewish tradition

KS2

Pupils are taught to:

- Know that people hold beliefs that affect their life.
- Understand the importance of Baptism and Holy Communion within the Christian tradition.
- Understand the significance of the rites of passage and other sacraments.
- Should know some key events in the life of Jesus and have a knowledge of purpose and teaching.
- Have an understanding of some of the basic elements of the Jewish and Muslim traditions

AT2 Reflecting on experience

Pupils should become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals, be able to reflect on their own experience, and develop a sense of their own identity and spiritual worth.

KS1

Pupils should:

- have developed the confidence to express their own feelings and emotions.
- recognise their role and place within the class and family unit of the school.
- know stories of their own birth.
- understand the importance of worship at a personal level.
- have an awareness of difference and diversity

KS2

Pupils should be able to:

- reflect upon their life and experiences.
- have a sense of their own personal history and place in the wider community.
- understand the purpose of Baptism and Holy Communion
- able to take part in worship and see it as a place for personal reflection.
- articulate sympathetically some of the elements of Judaism and Islam

AT3 Relationships

Pupils should develop qualities of thoughtfulness, fairness and respect for others, and develop an ability to see into and understands sympathetically the feelings, belief and actions of others. They should develop a sense of responsibility for the created world.

KS1

Pupils:

- can share, listen to another point of view and accept differences
- know the parables of Jesus
- know something of Jesus'. relationships with disciples and friends
- know the two great Commandments and their importance within the Christian community
- have begun to develop a sensitivity to the variety and richness of the natural world.

KS2

Pupils:

- can respond positively to other peoples' view point and share difficulties
- are aware of Jesus's teaching about relationships expressed through parables
- and the Sermon on the Mount
- understand how Jesus teaching about relationships affects peoples' lives in the past and in the present time
- understand that the Christian life is based on a relationship with God and a relationship with other people
- value and feel a responsibility for the created world.

AT4 Understanding and Interpreting

Pupils should develop an understanding of Christianity and to a lesser extent Judaism and Islam.

KS1

Pupils know that:

- there are other religions;
- that there are two key Christian festivals and can name them
- know that the Holy Bible is the basis for our faith, and consists of Old and New Testaments
- There are Christian places of worship and can recognise and name some key objects symbols; can recognise the clergy
- Judaism has its own traditions

KS2

Pupils:

- have an understanding of the key beliefs of Christianity.
- recognise the importance of Christmas and Easter to Christians, and be able to
- name other Christian festivals.
- know something of the history and structure of the Bible.
- know the importance of the Church to the Christian community and can explain the symbolism of objects in it.
- know that Judaism and Islam have their own traditions.

**Policy drafted by Evelyn Chua
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