Religious Education at Killigrew Primary and Nursery School

At Killigrew, we use the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus and RE for Today and Tomorrow to support our teaching of RE.

Our planning covers the six major world religions as well as multi-faith learning activities about the role of religion in local communities. We chose these documents to plan our curriculum because we wanted to be able to focus on the eight key drivers from the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for the RE curriculum, and we were able to track these through the documents, ensuring that progression was evident as the children moved up the school.

Here are our eight themes, as tracked in the RE progression map:

- 1. Sources of wisdom
- 2. Identity and belonging
 - 3. Belief and practices
- 4. Symbols and actions
- 5. Human responsibility and values
 - 6. Justice and fairness
- 7. Prayer, worship and reflection
 - 8. Ultimate questions.



Our 'ultimate questions' support pupils to think carefully, curiously and intelligently. We included these in our themes because we know, from our assessment of the children's prior learning in RE, that our pupils have a good understanding of different faiths and cultures but have less

experience in thinking about questions that may not have an answer, or where people may not agree what the answer might be.

We also know that discussing these ultimate questions develops the children's spoken language skills (in line with our whole school focus area) and supports them to feel empathy for others.

In addition, we know that talking about, and engaging in, philosophical enquiry supports children in exploring their own beliefs, experience, feelings, and values. By linking some of the ultimate questions to a local and school context, we guide their thinking to consider community and school focused questions, help them to appreciate diverse viewpoints and investigate moral and ethical issues. We constantly make the link between our Killigrew Learning Powers and the positive values of the wider world.

Implementation

We teach RE once every week in line with statutory guidance. We plan our assembly themes around important religious festivals celebrated by the six major world religions.

Our offsite visits include a visit to our local church and cathedral, a trip to a synagogue and a mosque and a trip to a Hindu temple. Faith visitors to the school, who either talk to the children in assembly or work with them over the course of the day, enhance this curriculum enrichment.



Year 4 trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor

Impact

We measure the impact of RE teaching in different ways: we conduct pupil voice to ascertain the children's thoughts and reasoning on the ultimate questions and their learning in RE. We also monitor the children's books carefully to check progression as the children move through the school and we observe the teaching of RE, offering professional development opportunities if needed.





Printing in St Albans Abbey

Celebrating Sukkot