



# Curriculum Statement

## Religious Education

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### Intent

At Bradfield C.E. Primary School, the aim of Religious Education is to explore the nature of faith by enabling the children to acquire knowledge and understanding: principally of Christianity, but also of Islam, Sikhism, Judaism and Hinduism. In a world where there are many different viewpoints, the intent is to equip the children with the core teaching, stories and modes of religious expression so that they can make informed decisions about faith. By understanding the rationale behind these religions, the children will better understand the way religious belief shapes lives and behaviour. They will develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and have increased empathy for those who have different points of view.

The children should be able to ask questions without being judged, articulate their thoughts clearly and be prepared to be challenged and changed by alternative viewpoints. They should be able to reflect on the big questions related to Heaven, God and man's responsibility to mankind and the world.

### Implementation

Children study units of work based on Understanding Christianity and the Oxford Diocesan scheme. These units hinge around an enquiry question like: What is the Trinity? The children are then taken through a journey of exploration- starting from an activity that will pique their interest and moving onto a series of lessons that will unveil the core teaching step by step. By the final lesson, the children should have the knowledge to make more of an informed decision about the initial question.

With the use of religious artifacts, key texts, visitors and film clips children are encouraged to question and grapple with unfamiliar concepts. An immersive experience of sights, smells, tastes, sounds and touch show that awe, wonder and faith is not just about head knowledge but dynamic, subject to change and always relevant - even to those without a religious affiliation. As the world opens up after Covid, we are hoping to add visits to places of worship to our curriculum too.

Learning is mainly recorded in the children's RE books - including pupil responses, written and verbal. However, each class has also got a 'Golden Book', which contains a record of the more creative responses to the enquiries and visits.

# Impact

Children at Bradfield CE Primary School tell us that they particularly enjoy the multi-sensory lessons. They find the sessions which demand a more creative response after debates more memorable and many are participating more in discussion. With the focus of drawing out key aspects of a particular faith in an enquiry, children are being given religious terminology to articulate their understanding. By using religious text to draw out a point, children are growing their confidence at finding their way around the Bible. In discussions, children are respectful of each other's opinions and some do acknowledge when they have changed their mind.