Religious Education

The Legal Requirement

Our school curriculum for religious education meets the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act (ERA). The ERA states that religious education is compulsory for all children, including those in the reception class (but not nursery classes) who are less than five years old. The ERA allows parents to withdraw their child from religious education classes if they so wish, although this should only be done once the parents have given written notice to the school governors. The ERA also allows teachers to refuse to teach religious education, but only after they have given due notice of their intention to the school governors.

The Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus 2007 is the legal document to which our RE plans adheres. It reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.

The Importance of R.E.

Religious education enables children to investigate and reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people. It should provoke challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God and issues of right and wrong. It should enable pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding of Christianity as well as other world religions.

It should offer opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development. Children will learn about different religious beliefs as well as learning from them enabling them to develop greater understanding of their own beliefs and the beliefs and traditions of others.

R.E also encourages children to develop their sense of identity and belonging giving opportunities to be active within their communities (family, friendship, school and locality) as well as understanding their place within the world.

R.E is able to help prepare pupils for living in a multi faith society. It plays an important role in preparing pupils for adult life, employment and lifelong learning enabling them to develop respect and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own.

Poplar Farm School **Religious Education Policy**

The value of RE and its contribution to the whole school curriculum

Religious Education actively promotes the values of truth, justice, and respect for all and care of the environment. It places specific emphasis on pupils valuing themselves and others which supports the school ethos. It also gives special emphasis to the sustainable development of the earth. As a subject it provides opportunity for stimulating and interesting discussions and activities. It develops both independent and interdependent learning and makes and important contribution to pupil skills in literacy and ICT. It provides an enquiring approach developing skills in speaking and listening.

The Aims of R.E:

- develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions represented in Great Britain
- develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life;
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
- have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society.
- develop attitudes of respect and open-mindedness
- develop a sense of appreciation and wonder which may lead to a deeper understanding of spirituality

In Key stage 2, pupils will develop investigative and research skills to enable them to make reasoned judgments about religious issues.

Teaching R.E. at Poplar Farm Primary School

Foundation Stage:	Christian themes
Key Stage One:	Christianity and aspects of Judaism and Islam
Key Stage Two:	Christianity and aspects of Judaism, Islam and Hinduism.

A variety of teaching and learning strategies are used including visits, ICT resources, use of artefacts, posters and video. Themes are taught through art, literacy and music. Christian festivals such as Easter, Christmas and Harvest are celebrated.

Details about the teaching programme are available through the Agreed Syllabus

Role of the R.E co-ordinator

They will be responsible for monitoring the standards of the children's work and the quality of the teaching in religious education. They are also responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of religious education, for being informed about current developments in the subject, and for providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

Date: **March 2018**

All policies are currently being ratified as appropriate by The Local Governing Body