

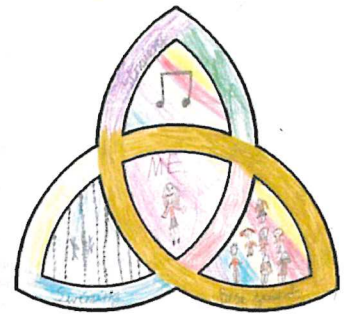
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Hello, I am Mrs Reviriego and I have only just started being RE Leader at Northmead. Since September I have spent a lot of time looking at our curriculum and learning a lot of new things myself. I am finding the variety of beliefs really fascinating and I love engaging in class discussions and hearing from the children's different experiences.



The syllabus for R.E. at Northmead is based on "The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey's Schools 2017-2022". The new syllabus is now being prepared and will be implemented September 2023. Our curriculum is inclusive and embraces the diversity of our community. Through our lessons, the children are given the opportunity to discuss big ideas and talk about their own experiences.



Staff Survey and Pupil Voice

I have recently conducted a staff and pupil survey to find out which areas are working well, what needs to be improved and anything that we would like to do more/less of. From the staff survey, I found that staff would love to bring RE lessons to life by relating to real-life experiences. Based on that, I am going to reach out to our parent community with a questionnaire asking for help to bring our curriculum alive.

Similarly, from the pupil survey I found that, although the children like RE and are happy engaging in class discussions, they would like to see more religions other than Christianity, and include more art and drama into their lessons. Luckily, the Guildford Diocesan Board of Education is working on a new syllabus, and that will include 6 Christianity units, 4 units of other religions and 2 thematic units per cycle, so this will be one of our main focuses next year, to make sure the new syllabus brings lessons to life for each of the religions that we learn about!

Year 3 will be learning about what Sikhs value, exploring the key beliefs of Sikhism, in particular introducing the importance of equality.

Year 4 will be exploring the key features of a synagogue and some of the major Jewish festivals, as well as investigating what they reveal about Jewish beliefs.

Year 6 pupils will be introduced to the principal beliefs and practices of Buddhism. This is a key unit to prepare pupils for KS3, where they will further develop their understanding of Buddhism as a non-theistic religion (with no god).

Year 5 will be exploring the key beliefs and practices of Islam through investigating the five 'pillars'.

Subject Development

One of the focus I have had this year in RE, is our assessment. Although the green questions – reasoning questions to deepen knowledge- have always been a part of RE, we would like to introduce a baseline question before we start a new unit, and are testing out two options: purple "prior knowledge" questions and "what do you know?/ what do you want to know?" charts. Next year, we plan to use this for every unit we teach across the school.

