

FAIRCHILDES PRIMARY SCHOOL

R.E. POLICY

Rationale

At Fairchildes we believe that Religious Education is important because it offers children opportunities for self-reflection and development of their own spirituality which cannot be found in other subject areas. It helps them to develop their own positive values and to see the world and their role in it from a variety of different perspectives.

In learning about various religions, children will have to investigate and make deductions, ask questions, evaluate and reflect on what they have learned, and handle artefacts. Such activities offer opportunities to further develop language and literacy skills. There are also links to other curriculum areas such as Art, Music, Geography and History thus making R.E. integral to the whole curriculum.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

At Fairchildes, we believe that R.E. is an active study of beliefs, customs and values expressed in world faiths, which allows children to develop and express their own responses, thinking skills, values and beliefs.

In achieving this objective, we aim to

- encourage respect for different belief systems and customs, including no faith
- encourage respect for each other in the diverse country and world in which we live
- develop a sense of value and self-worth
- develop an ability for self-reflection
- encourage a desire to question, explore, evaluate and reflect upon the religious and spiritual beliefs, practices, insights and experiences
- the curriculum will ensure British Values are at the core of all lessons

CONTENT

At Fairchildes the RE curriculum adheres to the legal requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act, and takes into account the agreed syllabus for Croydon. Every child will learn about religion, and from religion and human experience

As the children progress through the school, they will have the opportunity to learn about the six major religions. In addition, they will learn that in a multicultural and multi faith society it is important to be tolerant of the beliefs of all, including those with no religious belief.

R.E. is taught as a unit block throughout the school each term. This allows children to build upon and extend prior knowledge and thinking, as well as compare and contrast the different religions. All major Christian festivals will be studied and celebrated at relevant times throughout the year. In addition, an important festival from each of the other major religions will be studied and compared. Lessons use a variety of methods, including story, role play, discussion and debate, finding answers to questions, creating displays, and handling of artefacts.

INCLUSION

All children should have access to R.E., therefore, work and activities will be differentiated accordingly to ensure that all children participate to their full potential. Gifted and Talented children and SEN/EAL pupils will be specifically planned for. For more information see the Gifted and Talented and SEN policies.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

At Fairchildes, we believe that R.E. helps to develop understanding of equal opportunities. In teaching R.E., we aim to provide a balanced view which values all religions taught. We will ensure that through our teaching, we avoid materials and strategies which promote stereotyping and negative images.

Fairchildes is also aware of parental rights to withdraw children from R.E. lessons under the 1988 Education Reform Act. Teachers' rights are similarly safeguarded.

MONITORING

Children's work in RE will be monitored by class teachers and the curriculum in each year group monitored by the senior leadership team. This ensures high standards expected of RE study in the school are maintained.