

Religious Education at Westfield



Intent

Our school values underpin our curriculum approach. At Westfield School, children will receive a broad and solid religious education about religions from around the world. It is important for all of our pupils to grow up to be understanding, empathetic and tolerant of others. The aim is for the children to have the knowledge of world religions and the skills to listen respectfully, discuss and develop understanding with members from the society. We broadly follow the Buckinghamshire RE syllabus, with some adaptations to meet the needs of our school community.

Implementation

In Religious Education we have implemented the Discovery RE programme which is ambitious and sequential. This scheme of work has an enquiry-based approach to RE which complements our enquiry based curriculum at Westfield. We focus on a different religion every half term. Every year group studies Christianity and one other religion. The scheme follows a spiral approach allowing the children to revisit religions and deepen their knowledge throughout their schooling. It is important to allow the children an opportunity to explore their own spiritual development.

There are four steps in order to reach this goal:

1. Engagement
2. Investigation
3. Evaluation
4. Expression

By following these four steps, it promotes religious literacy by encouraging the children to gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions worldwide. Using balanced discussions about religions and beliefs, the children develop consideration in regards to belonging, believing and behaving.

Other ways in which we promote a broad religious education is by reading stories, using real life examples that are in the news and bringing children's attention to celebrations and traditions from around the world. This will ensure that all children understand the British values alongside respecting others beliefs.

Impact

Children at Westfield School will leave with knowledge and appreciation of religions from around the world. They will feel valued and be confident to ask questions and listen to what others have to say, supporting them in becoming respectful and positive members of society.