



## St Jude's C of E Primary School's Subject Stories R.E



### Intent

In RE, we are clear that Intent is the knowledge and skills the children acquire in our curriculum, which builds towards clearly defined end points.

RE is a core subject in all phases, including the Early Years, and is at the heart of our Christian distinctiveness. We ensure that our children learn about religion and learn from religion, enabling them to own and deepen their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our R.E curriculum gives children a strong understanding of the role religion plays in our local community, making learning purposeful and relevant. Through this, children gain a valuable understanding of how religion shapes local and worldwide culture. As a Church of England school, the children develop a strong foundation of the Christian faith. Children learn about the Christian message and are given opportunities to reflect on and discuss the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. This enables the children to apply their understanding of Christianity to make reasoned and informed responses to life issues and moral choices. We aspire for all of our children to be able to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences and communicate their ideas about faith and truth.

Through our curriculum, children are also given the opportunity to engage with other principal world faiths, applying an understanding of religion to develop informed respect, empathy and sensitivity towards all people. We aspire for our children to understand how and why people worship in the way they do.

By the time the children leave St Jude's, they will:

- Have a strong foundation of the Christian faith through knowledge and understanding that includes Christian Beliefs and Values, The Bible, Old Testament Characters, the Life and Teachings of Jesus, Prayer and Worship, Saints, The Local Church, The Christian Community, Living out the Faith, Rites of Passage and Christian Festivals
- Be able to apply an understanding of Christianity to make reasoned and informed responses to life issues and moral choices
- Have some knowledge and understanding of the other main world faiths represented in the United Kingdom, applying an understanding of religion to develop respect, empathy and sensitivity towards all people
- Have enhanced their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Have the ability to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences and communicate issues of faith and truth
- Have the skills of critical analysis and evaluation and the promotion of understanding of people from different faith backgrounds and none.

### Implementation

At St Jude's we provide a challenging and robust curriculum, using the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) schemes of learning. Our curriculum adheres to SDBE guidance on coverage of faiths, with one third of our lessons focusing on other religions whilst the rest of the RE curriculum focuses on Christianity.

In **EYFS**, teachers use the SDBE schemes of work to plan focused carpet sessions weekly for the children. The content of these sessions is then enhanced through carefully planned continuous provision and through focus activities with an adult. In addition to this, links within the Understanding the World area of learning in the EYFS framework mean that the children:

- recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
- understand that some places are special to members of their community.
- name and describe people who are familiar to them.

In **Key Stages 1 and 2**, use the SDBE schemes of learning to inform their lessons which happen once a week. These lessons are progressive, sequential, innovative, creative, exciting and engaging.

Teachers are creative and experienced in adapting these plans to meet the needs and interests of their class; they ensure lessons are practical and well-resourced, with religious artefacts and objects, and have a diverse range of learning outcomes. For example,



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## R.E



R.E lessons can involve drama, art, research, debates, computing skills and food technology. Trips to religious places of worship are also organised to contextualise children's understanding and to embed their learning.

In R.E lessons, children engage with challenging questions about meaning and purpose in life and belief in God. They learn about how different religions respond to these questions and are encouraged to develop their own personal responses.

As RE at St Jude's contributes to the outworking of our Christian vision, we use events across the Liturgical calendar to teach our children about Christianity, such as our Christmas and Easter celebrations. We have daily collective worship as a school and representatives from St Matthew's Church, Brixton, and Herne Hill Baptist Church visit us weekly to lead collective worship.

Our annual Multi-faith day is also a key event in our school calendar – allowing the children to embed and make connections between their RE knowledge and understanding.

### Impact

- ✓ Our latest SIAMS inspection grade on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 was Outstanding.
- ✓ Children are assessed in their understanding of different religions – beliefs, practices and worship (AT1) and also their ability to engage with questions and express their beliefs in response to this (AT2). Children make progress equal to comparable subjects.
- ✓ Faith Group leaders represent their class in making suggestions about improvements in the way that faith is demonstrated in school and how we can promote our Christian distinctiveness. They also lead Collective Worships and participate in whole school and community Church services throughout the year. They work hard to ensure that R.E and collective Worship continues to be exciting and engaging for all pupils.
- ✓ In Reception Tapestry demonstrates observations of children's understanding of RE concepts such as belief, faith and community.
- ✓ In Reception children's voice shows an understanding of concepts taught in weekly RE lessons.

#### **If you were to walk into R.E lessons at St Jude's, you would see:**

- Children participating in meaningful discussion and debate about challenging questions in a safe and secure environment that respects and values all beliefs and viewpoints.
- Children learning and expressing themselves through drama, conversation, art or writing.
- Religion coming to life for children through images, resources, artefacts or tasting.

#### Pupil Voice

Year 4 pupil- 'Learning about Christianity in my R.E lessons has had an impact on how I live my life'.

Year 2 pupil – 'I didn't know about any religions when I started school but now, I know about loads!'

#### An example of skill progression within our R.E curriculum

R.E aspect: Becoming more confident and able in discussing and explain the significance of religious aspects of life						
Reception:	Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Year 4:	Year 5:	Year 6:
Talk about what is important to them	Talk about what is important to them with respect to others' feelings	Talk about what is important to them and to other people with respect to others' feelings	Talk about what is important to them in the challenges they face with reference to their own and others' feelings	Talk about what different communities are important to them and to others with respect to their feelings	Reflect on the places that are important to them and the people that inspire them and others in relation to other religions.	Reflect on what they would like to happen for themselves and the world in the future in the context of their own experience of life and death



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### Our diverse curriculum:

As a school, we are passionate that our children receive a broad, balanced, inclusive and diverse curriculum. We have developed anti-racist commitments, and endeavor to fulfill these in every curriculum area, including RE. Within this subject, we will ensure:

- Images and resources used within the RE curriculum are carefully selected by staff to ensure that they are representative of our diverse community.
- We dedicate time to learning about other faiths and as part of this, other cultures, people from those cultures and how they live their lives in line with SDBE guidance on RE curriculum time devoted to other faiths.
- Time in the school calendar is designated to learning about significant religious festivals and celebrations from all faiths including influential figures linked to these. These festivals and celebrations will include a diverse range of people, including different ethnicities, genders and cultural backgrounds.
- Our yearly multi-faith week is an opportunity for pupils and staff in St Jude's to celebrate our diverse community.

### Remote learning:

Whilst children are learning remotely, the following approaches are taken to ensure RE teaching and learning is consistent and of a high quality:

- Staff continue to use SDBE medium term planning to ensure that the content of their RE lessons is consistent with the content they receive whilst learning in school.
- RE lessons make use of visuals including videos in place of the artefacts and trips that we would provide whilst in school. In this way, RE lessons continue to be exciting, engaging and relevant to pupils who are encouraged to view faith as living.
- Prior learning is recapped so that pupils learning sticks with them.
- Pupils upload one piece of RE learning per half term which is given feedback by staff.

### Outstanding examples of learning



Reception creating Menorahs



Year 2 Christingle making



Year 4 acting out Moses parting the Red Sea