The Cliff Federation (Hemswell Cliff and Willoughton Primary Schools)

Religious Education

Our Intent:

At the Cliff Federation, we are passionate about providing all our pupils with a rich and engaging RE curriculum which fosters their understanding of and respect for different religions and worldviews represented in the United Kingdom. Through our RE curriculum, we aim to develop pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills, enabling them to make reasoned and informed judgements about religions and worldviews and their own beliefs, values and identity.

How we implement this:

We follow the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus for Religion Education from the Lincoln Diocese. The spiral curriculum is planned and sequenced so that new religious knowledge and specific related skills build on prior learning. A range of religions and worldviews are taught. The syllabus approaches learning through four key areas of enquiry: Belonging, identity and community; Beliefs, influences and values; Expression, experience and the sacred; Truth, interpretation and meaning.

Pupils will:

- understand the impact following a religion or worldview has on peoples' lived experiences
- recognise that diversity exists between religions and worldviews **and** within them
- know and understand about the world from non-religious perspectives (for example from a Humanist standpoint)
- develop thinking skills which will enable them to navigate an increasingly complex world
- consider the ways in which local, national and world events are linked to beliefs, communities, identities, expressions of faith and conflicting interpretations.

In EYFS, children will focus on the theme 'Special and Sacred' (also from the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus). Within this, they will consider: what people, stories and events are special to them; the festivals of Easter and Holi; and why some places and objects are considered special or sacred.

To ensure the high-quality delivery of our RE curriculum, we:

- provide a wide range of opportunities for pupils to engage actively with their learning through hands-on activities, discussions and encounters with people from different religious backgrounds
- encourage pupils to think critically, evaluate evidence, challenge assumptions and develop their own reasoned opinions
- foster an inclusive and welcoming environment where pupils feel safe to express their thoughts and beliefs. We promote mutual respect and understanding, facilitating open discussions while valuing diversity and difference.

The impact:

The successful RE approach within the Cliff Federation will support pupils to develop a broad and deep understanding of a range of religions and worldviews, enabling them to engage thoughtfully with the diverse world they encounter. Pupils will learn to respect and value differences, develop empathy and appreciate the values and beliefs held by others. This fosters harmonious relationships and prepares pupils to contribute positively to society. Through the study of RE, pupils develop critical thinking skills, allowing them to evaluate information, consider different perspectives, and form their own well-reasoned opinions. RE provides opportunities for pupils to explore questions of meaning, purpose and identity, contributing to their personal growth and well-being. Pupils develop self-awareness and a strong moral compass, enabling them to make responsible choices in their lives.