

NPAT Curriculum: RE Narrative

Children are growing up in world where there is increasing awareness of diversity of religious and non-religious worldviews. It is therefore vital that the RE curriculum provides a rigorous and rich study of religious and non-religious worldviews. A quality RE curriculum creates another space for respect, exploration and understanding of the diversity of world views and belief systems. "RE is an important curriculum subject. It is important in its own right and it also makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports wider community cohesion." (Religious Education in English Schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010). Learning about religion and worldviews will help the children to develop respect, understanding and empathy for others. They will be provided with a safe space in which to have deep, meaningful discussions during which they learn to respectfully understand, challenge and accept differing viewpoints, to reflect critically and responsibly on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions.

During KS1, children will **explore** and develop their knowledge and understanding of beliefs and practices of Christianity, Judaism and Islam. They will be encouraged to raise questions and begin to express their own views in response to the material they learn about and in response to questions about their ideas. The following areas of focus have been selected: Belonging to communities, Caring for the world and others, Bible stories, Christmas through gifts and messages, Judaism, Islam, Easter, How Christians put their beliefs into action and Sacred Places.

During KS2, the RE curriculum provides opportunities for children to make **connections** between their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the religious traditions and beliefs in Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and those of no faith. They will be provided with learning opportunities to make connections between the beliefs of others and their own lives and their way of understanding the world.

During Lower KS2, the following areas of focus have been selected: Christianity - Creation, Jesus as a loving and caring person, The Old Testament (Promises), Pentecost, Festivals – Christmas through light and love, Ramadan, Passover and Easter, Hinduism, Sacred books and Commitments.

During Upper KS2, children continue to make connections in the following areas of focus that have been selected: Christmas through Peace, Judaism, Buddhism, Stories of Faith, Christianity through the arts, Islam, Humanism, The Old Testament (Freedom), Creation and Science, Sikhism and Pilgrimage.

The following high dividend concepts have been identified as part of the NPAT RE curriculum: **belief, worship, festivals and community**. These will form the 'Big Ideas' through which all RE will be taught. Teachers will make explicit reference to where children have met these concepts before in the curriculum. As a child progresses through school, core concepts are expanded upon and explored in greater depth. Some units are thematic. These units refer to more than one religion to explore a religious concept such as sacred books, worship or life as a journey.

The RE curriculum has been carefully constructed to ensure children acquire a rich deep knowledge and understanding of belief and practice. Thus, enabling children to make connections between differing faiths and beliefs and their own lives and ways of understanding the world.

Northampton Primary Academy Trust RE Narrative

Horizontal links will be explicitly made e.g. In Year 1 Creation begins with 'Who made the world?' and ends with exploring different views of creation including scientific views.

Vertical links will be made where knowledge and understanding are built upon from previous RE units e.g., in Year 4 Holy Week builds upon knowledge and understanding from the Year 2 unit on Easter.

Diagonal links will be made, particularly where this is cross-curricular. e.g., links between RE, Science and Geography such as Environmental Change (Science) with Rainforest and the story of Creation and RE and Science – Creation and Science with Adaptation and Evolution (Science)