



## Religious Education Curriculum Statement



*'Harmony among our different religious traditions is essential for world peace'* **Dalai Lama**

At Vallis we want our Religious Education Curriculum to create happy, engaged, lifelong learners who have a respect for and open-mindedness towards the many religions in our world.

### Intent

Our RE curriculum at Vallis will provide opportunities for pupils to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Through engaging and thought-provoking lessons which strengthen pupils' understanding of the subject we will encourage pupils to ask and answer questions and to reflect on their own values and experiences.

Pupils will be given opportunities to develop their social skills and cultural awareness, reiterating our school values, which in turn will guide them in school life and beyond.

Pupils will gain:

- A knowledge of the key beliefs and celebrations within Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism.
- A respect for individuals' beliefs.
- An understanding of how the different religions impact how individuals lead their lives.
- The ability to recognise and develop good relationships.
- A positive and well thought out spiritual and moral outlook.

### Implementation

We follow the Somerset Agreed Syllabus Awareness Mystery and Value scheme of work which forms the basis of our two year, long-term, rolling programme. In EYFS and KS1, pupils learn about Christianity and Judaism. In KS2, pupils revisit these religions and learn about Islam and Hinduism. Our weekly lessons encourage pupils to think philosophically and critically by asking deep, open-ended questions.

Our curriculum guides pupils to learn about respect and diversity in the United Kingdom and around the world. Evidence of pupils' understanding is recorded in a class floor book and the format of lessons is structured so that it provides lots of opportunities for discussion and reflection. Children are taught three RE units each year, one per term. Units are taught in weekly sessions. Children explore these different religions through discussions, research, visits, visitors, artefacts and experiencing particular aspects of the religion. We are also fortunate to have links with our Parish Church, Holy Trinity and therefore enrich the RE curriculum we provide with local visits, a Harvest Festival and Christmas celebration.

### Impact

We want happy, engaged, lifelong learners who are respectful members of society. We strive to ensure pupils who attend Vallis feel that their culture is celebrated. We believe the impact of a good RE education forms the preparation for adult life, enabling a child to understand the beliefs of people from all over the world and within their own community, and helps them ask and answer questions that arise in a diverse world.

We recognise and celebrate the importance of the child's voice, and their individual experience, understanding thoughts about key questions about spirituality and human existence. We encourage them to be well rounded individuals who make our world a better place to live. Subject Monitoring of pupil voice and the use of class floor books will form the heart of how we measure the impact of our teaching, as well as the use of Class Quiz Boxes and 'Flashback Fours' to check and refresh pupils' learning. If harmony among our different religious traditions is essential for world peace then we embrace our part in teaching pupils to have respect for the differing views and beliefs within an ever changing society.

**Children at Vallis will be able to:**

- Recall key facts (Sticky Knowledge) about religious figures and festivals
- Explain the different religious practises and beliefs of the main religious beliefs
- Ask relevant questions and gather evidence to inform opinions and views on world religions
- Understand and show respect for other people's beliefs, values, practises and traditions
- Consider religious ideas through reflection, empathy and imagination and respond to more challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life.
- Begin to think about their own beliefs and spiritual ideas and relate this to themselves

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