



Religious Education Policy Statement

Please read together with over-arching Curriculum Policy and Teaching and Learning Policy.

Rationale

Religious education enables children to investigate and reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people. At Stokes Wood Primary School we develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths, and we address the fundamental questions in life. We enable children to develop a sound knowledge of world religions, especially those that are the main faiths of children within our school. Children reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding. We help the children learn from religions as well as about religions.

The aims of religious education are to help children:

- Develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences;
- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions and value systems found in Britain;
- Develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition;
- Be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life;
- Develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
- Develop investigative and research skills and to enable them to make reasoned judgements about religious issues;
- Have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society

Statutory Section: Legal Requirements

All maintained schools in England must provide Religious Education (RE) for all registered pupils, including those in the sixth form and reception classes, unless withdrawn by their parents.¹ This requirement does **not** apply to:

- children below compulsory school age in nursery schools or classes
- any person aged nineteen or above for whom further education is being provided at school
- any person over compulsory school age who is receiving part-time education.

Separate legislative provision for RE in maintained special schools requires them to ensure that RE provision is made for pupils, as far as practicable, in terms of the special educational needs of the pupils. [*Regulations 5A, Education, Regulations 2001*²].

¹ School Standards and Framework Act 1998, Schedule 19; Education Act 2002, section 80.

² The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Regulations 2006, Regulation 5A.

The locally agreed syllabus (LAS) must be consistent with Section 375(3) of the Education Act 1996³, School Standards and Framework Act, 1998⁴, Schedule 19, which states that it must 'reflect that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.' The law does not define what these principal religions are. Each Local Authority (LA) is required to review its LAS every five years.

RE should be provided for all registered pupils except for those withdrawn at the request of parents/carers [*School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, Section 71*⁵].

At Stokes Wood Primary School we follow the

Harmony and Diversity

Religious Education in Leicester City

Non-statutory guidance 2019- 2024

You can find this document along with long plan overviews of RE on the following link:

[Curriculum | Stokes Wood Primary](#)

³ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents>

⁴ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/31/schedule/19>

⁵ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/31/section/71>