



Whitchurch Primary School **Religious Education Intent**

The principle aim of Religious Education at Whitchurch, is to help children acquire and develop knowledge and foster an understanding of Christianity and the other principal world religions represented locally, across the United Kingdom and also the world; as well as an understanding of the beliefs of those members of the world community who choose to have no religion or whose views and beliefs may differ from their own.

We wish for our children to learn not only *about* religion, but also *from* religion. A key driver for the RE curriculum at Whitchurch is the perceived lack of religious and cultural diversity within the school and local community. It is of importance for us to educate our children about other religions and cultures, as well as to learn from them. We aim to help the children here understand the way that religious belief shapes both lives and the behavior of people across the world; that it helps to develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about social and moral issues and enhance spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our intent in the teaching of Religious Education here, is to support and challenge pupils to reflect upon, develop and affirm their own beliefs, values and attitudes and reflect positively on those of differing beliefs, through an exploration of shared human experience, alongside a growing understanding of the place and significance of religion in the modern, ever-changing world.

Through our Religious Education curriculum, we aim:

- to engage pupils in enquiry based learning and explore questions arising from the study of religion, faith and belief, so as to promote their personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- to provide our pupils with the knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religious faiths, traditions and beliefs represented in our local community, the UK and the wider world.
- to develop our pupils' understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people's behaviour, values and attitudes.
- to enable our pupils to develop a positive attitude towards people who hold religious or non-religious beliefs that are different from their own.

- to enable our pupils to apply the insights of the principal religious faiths and traditions or those held by people of no religion, to their own search for identity and significance in the world and to help them in establishing their own 'world view'.
- to enable our pupils to become aware of their own beliefs and values and to have a positive attitude toward the search for meaning and purpose in life.