

## Willowbrook Primary School Religious Education

### Intent

At Willowbrook Primary school, we believe that our Religious Education Curriculum should be broad, balanced, engaging and accessible to all pupils. We provide our children with rich opportunities to learn about a range of different religions and beliefs, giving them the skills to develop insightful and positive attitudes to diversity in their own community and the wider world. We believe that R.E plays a significant role in the development of pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We aim to promote respect and tolerance of different faiths by developing the children's understanding and appreciation of different beliefs and practices. We aim for children to become responsible and respectful members of the diverse society and world in which they live in. Our goal in teaching Religious Education mirrors our whole school intent for the children, to be independent thinkers, learners and successful adults.

The purpose and aims of the Essex Agreed syllabus 2022 is to:

- Facilitate academic engagement
- Develop knowledge and understanding
- Express ideas and insight
- Develop religious literacy
- Be driven through the multi-disciplinary lenses.

### Implementation

We use the Saffron Academy Trust RE scheme which follows the Essex Agreed Syllabus 2022 which is designed to support children to understand religion and world views for a life in a changing world. Our scheme follows a multi-disciplinary approach where religion and worldviews are studied through three different lenses:

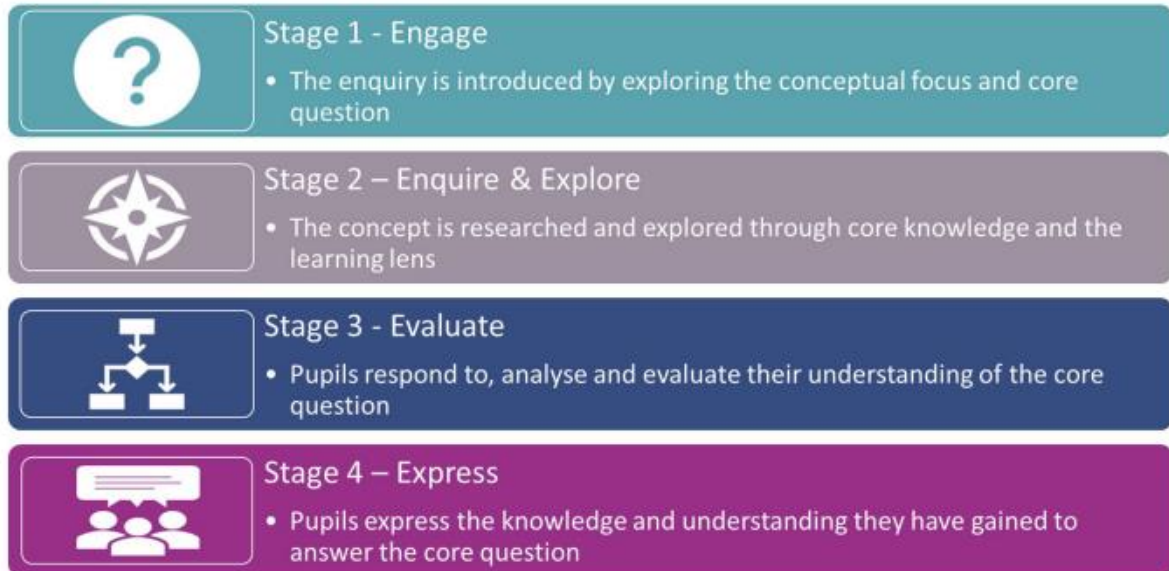
- Theology- Thinking through believing.
- Philosophy- Thinking through thinking.
- Human/ social sciences- Thinking through living.

Schools are required to ensure that more time is spent on Christianity considering that religious traditions in Great Britain are largely Christian. KS1 is required to spend 50% of time on Christianity; a minimum of 25% on a second religion; and the remainder of the time on a third religion. In KS2, schools are required to spend 35% of time on Christianity; a minimum of 20% on a second religion and the remainder of time on a third religion. We have used the context of our school population to agree on the religions and world views that we cover.

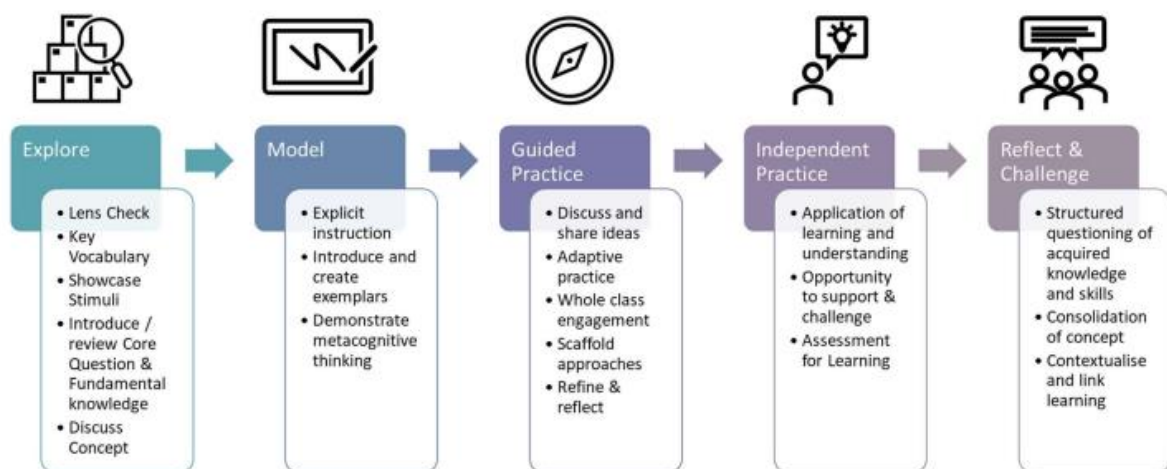
Key Stage	Religion/ World View	Weighting
EYFS	Christianity	Main
KS1	Christianity	Main
	Hinduism	In depth
	Judaism	Encounter

KS2	Christianity	Main
	Islam	In depth
	Humanism	In depth
	Hinduism	Encounter

Every unit follows the same structure:



Each lesson follows the same structure:



Wherever possible, in order to expand their knowledge and embrace the subject with enthusiasm, we aim to provide first-hand experiences. We value the religious backgrounds of all members of the school community and hope that this will encourage individuals to share their own experiences with others freely.

Across the school, the children have opportunities throughout the year to participate first-hand in R.E experiences, including visiting religious places of worship, religious visitors and assemblies. We have excellent links with the Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust who provide many learning opportunities for the children throughout the year such as a Christmas Wonder workshop for year 6; Easter Cracked workshop for year 5; and Darkness

to Light workshop for year 1 and year 2. We also have links with the local church: St Peter's Church, Hutton where the Reverend visits year groups to provide first-hand views linked to their RE unit; runs the annual Christingle workshop and assembly; and also an annual whole-school workshop linked to one of the school's core values.

EYFS and KS1 also perform the nativity for their annual Christmas production and the KS2 Christmas shows include the retelling of the Christmas story.

R.E also plays a central role in promoting British Values and is used as a tool to explore the concepts of citizenship, respect and tolerance.

## Impact

Coverage of R.E at Willowbrook is thorough and ensures progression of key thinking skills and knowledge. Each unit provides RE Age Related expectations statements to support teachers in assessing children's progress. The children have shown that they are inquisitive in their learning and through exploration and discussion have begun to reflect on key aspects of religions. The children are increasingly aware of the importance of diversity in modern Britain and can make links from their learning in R.E to their own lives, their communities and the wider world. At Willowbrook, we are a close community in which difference and diversity are accepted and celebrated.