



Our Religious Education Curriculum



Our RE Intent

At Brighstone, Religious Education is given a high priority, especially being a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School. The school's Christian core values of Love, Courage and Respect underpin our ethos and are emulated in lessons as well as throughout the school day, and are a shared vision with our stakeholders. Religious Education enables children to enquire about concepts and build upon their prior knowledge and experiences. It seeks to allow children to communicate their ideas and evaluate and apply a concept around their beliefs. This enables the children to become reflective, curious, respectful, and links in with developing the children culturally, morally, spiritually and socially.



Our aims are for all children at Brighstone to:

- Understand and appreciate other people's beliefs
- Communicate their beliefs
- Have enquiring minds
- Be reflective about their understanding and ideas
- Be able to communicate, discuss and share their ideas



We aim to develop, through our teaching of Religious Education, the following attitudes:

- Curiosity and interest;
- Pleasure and thoughtfulness;
- Critical appraisal;
- Independence;
- Confidence;
- Respect for other views and cultures;
- Reflection.



Our RE Implementation



At Brighstone, we follow the Hampshire scheme Living Difference IV alongside the Church schools' syllabus of Understanding Christianity for the Christian units. The progression of knowledge and skills across the year groups is carefully planned for, to enable children to build on and apply previously learnt skills and knowledge.

Children are taught each concept in context across a range of religions to give them a broader understanding of the world we now live in. In EYFS and KS1, children look in depth at Christianity, Buddhism and Judaism. In Lower Key Stage 2, the children explore Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. In Upper Key Stage 2 the children look in depth at Christianity and Islam, as well as Humanism. In each year group, a concept is explored across a range of religions/traditions as a 'light touch'. Four Golden Threads (Belonging, Special, Community and Love) are woven throughout the units.

Religious Education at Brighstone Primary School is taught and celebrated in a range of ways. It is taught for at least an hour a week in the first half of every term and is blocked over a period of three weeks before Christmas, Easter and summer. Teachers plan opportunities to allow the children to take part in art, drama and English within the Religious concept. The children have an opportunity to write down personal reflections and work in their own RE books. Any whole class work, discussions, role play and speech





bubbles are recorded in the whole class RE big books to allow children to express their opinions openly and freely verbally without worrying about writing them down.

We also encourage links with the wider community and the church. We celebrate Inter Faith week each year, during which we welcome people from different faiths to talk about their beliefs. Some of these visitors are also members of the island's SACRE. We have strong links with St Mary's Church in Brighstone and attend special services there, including Harvest, Christingle, Christmas and Easter, as well as the Y6 Leavers' Service in July. Representatives from the church and South Wight Area Youth (a local Christian youth group) come in to lead Collective Worship once a week, as well as leading the Y6 River Project, and we are involved in Brighstone Christmas Tree Festival, displaying a tree as well as having the choir singing to open the Festival. We have our whole school Nativity performances in the church, we have an active bellringing club who ring at special services, and our Y6 leavers also take part in the Y6 Leavers' Service at Portsmouth Cathedral every year. Staff are also encouraged to take children over to the church for RE and for other lessons to familiarise children with the church and its place in the community, such as exploring the history of our village.

Pupils are assessed on a different part of the cycle every half term, with two half terms being Contextualise which is the religious part of the cycle. Children are assessed against the End of Year Expectations (EYE) as to whether they are ARE (Age Related), WTS (Working Towards), GDS (Greater Depth) or B (Below).

Some possible activities that are used in Religious Education are:

- Conscience Alley
- Thought and speech bubble comparisons
- Hot seating
- Freeze frames
- Art work
- Diamond Nine
- Creative Writing; e.g. diary, postcard, letters
- Discussions
- Personal responses
- Visitors
- Games
- Visits



Our RE Intended Impact

Religious Education has a big impact upon the learners of Brighstone Primary as it helps to shape them into the people that they are today. They will be able to be spiritually, morally, culturally and socially aware of others. Their learning builds each year so that they can make links and schemas around religions and others' beliefs. They will become more confident in expressing themselves and listening to other people's ideas and beliefs. They will become tolerant to others and accepting of people's differences. They will learn to challenge what they see around them by enquiring. Every child will be able to achieve in and access Religious Education because the work will be scaffolded appropriately and it has many different cross curricular activities, minimising potential barriers and allowing for all children's understanding to be shown.

