

Religious Education

Religious Education at Red Gates

Religious Education at Red Gates focuses on celebrating important religious events occurring throughout the year to help pupils understand and reflect upon religious and spiritual beliefs, and practices, through meaningful experiences. Religious Education gives our pupils good grounding of religious events during the year, as well as supporting the development of high standards of behaviour, morale and beliefs and values.

Croydon Agreed Syllabus 2018 states: 'Whether we are religious or not there are signs of religion all around, the landscape is full of churches and of other places of worship. Belonging to an organised religion has an effect on many aspects of a person's life. Any of these may show the rest of the world that we are members of a belief tradition, clothes, food, names, times and ways of celebration and what is considered important in life'

At Red Gates School, we show awareness of the diversities we have in culture, religion and beliefs through our practice, topics, community visits, and everyday routines to give our pupils a sense of belonging. Pupils have opportunities to engage with cultural, religious and spiritual aspects of human life through the experiences across the curriculum. There are main events celebrated by the whole school: like Diwali the festival of light, Christmas Carol Concert, Christmas Production, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day Disco, Easter, and Ramadan. We also have other events for each term, which include Jewish, Buddhist and Sikhs celebrations; each pathway have opportunities to celebrate events that are significant to the pupils in their classrooms. Teachers have access to Religious Education Schemes of Work that contains event and topic themed ideas designed for teachers to use and amend to best meet the needs and abilities of their pupils and to provide meaningful Religious Education lessons.

EYFS

Religious Education in the EYFS Pathway is introduced through a cross-curricular approach. Religious Education has strong presence in the EYFS curriculum through Understanding of the World, Literacy, Expressive art and design and contributes to personal, social and emotional development. Children may begin to explore religion, beliefs, and cultures in stories of special people, books, times, places and objects and by taking part in school celebrations. Pupils are introduced to religious words where appropriate and use their senses in exploring religions artefacts and beliefs, practices and forms of expression. Pupils use their curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of their world and the world around them.

LISS

Religious Education in the LISS pathway is taught with both explicit lessons and a cross-curricular approach. Pupils take a leading part during school celebrations, through singing, performing, helping with organization and supporting their friends from other pathways. Pupils have opportunities to take part in community visits to places of worship and meet leaders of various faiths. Participation in Red Gates Choir lead by the Music Therapist is a great extension to practice social interaction, shape young voices, and lift our spirits up. Within the topics, Pupils are encouraged to engage and share their own, cultures, religions, values and beliefs and to show understanding of others. Through art, music, dance, and cooking pupils are encourage to have a voice and to express themselves to help develop a sense of belonging.

Sensory

Religious Education in the Sensory Pathway is taught across the curriculum through a high multisensory approach with practical elements of exploration and investigation. Religious themes are linked with multisensory experiences where pupils learn through participation in topic themed Attention Autism session, ICT, arts and crafts, cooking lessons, sensory stories and story massage to help reflect the spirit of the holiday and religious connotation. Pupils participate in whole school events such as Diwali, the Christmas production, Holi, Chinese New Year, harvest, Eid, Easter.

ASD

Religious Education in the ASD pathway is taught with both explicit lessons and a cross-curricular approach. Pupils continue to practice their communication skills and consolidate their understanding by commenting or questioning the topic or religious event. While exploring religious themes or events, the pupils in the ASD pathway focus on areas of the event that are meaningful and interesting to them such as the music, clothes, art, and the food of the celebration where they are fully engaged and learn from each other. Religious Education is explored across curriculum linked through our topics, such as, incorporating writing (writing recipes/ shopping lists/invitations/posters etc.), ICT (taking photos of friends, taking photos at the event, organising music etc.), creating art work for displays, and cooking lessons (learning new cooking skills, exploring new flavours and textures etc.). Pupils participate in whole school celebrations.