



Brookside School - Our Vision for Religious Education

The RE curriculum at Brookside School is our detailed way of implementing the Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus.

At Brookside School, our vision is to equip children with the skills and knowledge to become thoughtful and respectful members of a multi-faith society. Our RE curriculum explores religious beliefs and cultures both within our community and around the world by provoking challenging questions about human life.

Progression in RE is evidenced through three key elements: believing, thinking and living. These elements run through all our RE teaching and help **children to become religiously literate** and able to express their own views respectfully whilst understanding and tolerating the differing views of others.

During their time at Brookside School, children will explore ideas within Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism as well as multi-faith concepts, such as belonging and identity. Each lesson will: link to and build on children's understanding of the three key elements of RE; allow children to explore religion through high quality resources and artefacts; promote British values as part of each child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development.

The EYFS curriculum provides many opportunities to explore ideas within RE - particularly within 'Personal, Social and Emotional Development' and 'Understanding the World'. The RE curriculum at Brookside begins by developing children's sense of self by exploring what it means to be part of a family and part of a community. This builds throughout the year into understanding how different people can feel part of different communities as well as exploring feelings, relationships and what it means to be kind. The curriculum also explores values within the five main religions, with a particular focus on Christianity, and how this shapes the village of East Leake.

During Key Stage 1, children will build on what they have learnt during the Early Years. The children's understanding of values and topic-specific vocabulary are revisited and built upon - exploring Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. Children will also develop knowledge of festivals and traditions within different religions and make comparisons with their own family traditions and celebrations. They will learn about places of worship and understand the importance of these within a community. In preparation for Key Stage 2, children will reflect on their learning, explore their own ideas about religion through discussion and ask thoughtful questions.



During Key Stage 2, children will further develop their knowledge of festivals, traditions, stories, beliefs, places of worship and holy books within different religions (Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism) and how these impact the lives of those who believe and the community around them. They will begin to use their knowledge of religion to discuss and develop their own views and learn to listen to and understand the views of others. By the end of Key Stage 2, children at Brookside will have a broad understanding of world religions and cultures and be able to justify their own views and challenge others' views respectfully, making them religiously literate members of society.

As part of a Trust-wide focus on developing children's appreciation of diversity around the world and in our community, Brookside takes great pride in leading a diversity project which enables children to further explore and appreciate cultures and religions. Through CPD and funding from the British Council, Brookside has been able to develop a link with a school in Bagamoyo, Tanzania.

At Brookside, we pride ourselves on being an inclusive school where everyone is made to feel welcome. It is implicit to our curriculum design that all children, including those with SEND, have full access to the Religious Education curriculum. We encourage children to be actively involved in their own learning, integrating what they have been taught with their own experiences. We strive to provide a happy, supportive and inclusive environment in which all children become independent and confident learners and achievers in a continually changing world.

'Big picture' understanding Children to become religiously literate				
Knowledge and Understanding		Elements of RE		
Substantive knowledge	Specific vocabulary	Believing	Thinking	Living

