

Curriculum Statement



Intent

At Princetown School, we recognise the importance of Religious Education and we encourage children to explore different beliefs and reflect on how they live and what their own ideas are. It is important in our increasingly diverse world, that children learn to be tolerant and respectful of different beliefs and live alongside each other in harmony. We want children to gain an understanding of the range of different beliefs of people across the world to ensure that as our pupils grow up they can live in harmony with others.

Implementation

Religious Education taught in Princetown (according to the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus Religious Education 2019-2024) ensures pupils encounter core concepts in religions and beliefs in a coherent way, developing their understanding and their ability to handle questions being open and objective. It endeavours to promote a positive attitude towards people, respecting their right to hold different beliefs to their own. Within Princetown, the teaching and learning approach has three core elements which are woven together to provide breadth and balance, these will allow for overlap between elements that suit the religion, concept and question being explored: Children have the opportunity to experience different religions through visits to different places of worship, for example; Plymouth Orthodox Synagogue, Plymouth Mosque and a Greek Orthodox Church. To further deepen learning, Religious visitors are organised to talk to the children about their faith, festivals and beliefs. These visits provide the children with opportunities to ask questions and have hands-on experiences such as: making Christingles and Diwali lights, Diwali dancing, singing Christmas carols. These trips and visitors are organised termly, focusing on the topics that the children are studying. Through these experiences we can celebrate the range of cultures and the diversity of our schools and communities. RE is taught weekly, but parents do have the right to request that their child be excused from all or part of the RE provided at school. At times, RE may be taught through a class topic or as a whole school RE day. The teacher may develop their own key questions linked to the themes in the syllabus, allowing links with other subject areas where appropriate. Lessons are planned and delivered in a variety of ways ensuring that all children can access and participate in lessons. Interactive, practical activities encourage the children to discuss their ideas and extend their understanding of difficult concepts and challenging questions.

Impact

Within Princetown Primary School, we seek to ensure that all children in our schools are educated to develop spiritually, academically, emotionally and morally to enable them to better understand themselves and others and to cope with the multicultural world. Regular assemblies or Collective Worships will help to celebrate the diversity of the school community and promote positive images of people in the wider community, including their beliefs, traditions, culture, language and history. By the end of KS2 the children will have extended their knowledge and understanding of a variety of religions and beliefs. They will have developed a religious vocabulary and will be able to reflect on questions of meaning, offering their own thoughtful and informed insights into religious and secular world views. The children will have explored ultimate questions of beliefs and values in relation to a range of contemporary issues in an ever changing society.