



Nurturing the Future, Inspiring Success

## **Religious Education**

### **Intent**

At North Farnborough Infant School our goal is not to teach children to be religious but how better to understand religion in the wider world. Religious Education (R.E.) is provided in accordance with current legislation and the recommendations of Hampshire's 'Living Difference' agreed syllabus. We encourage children to develop a caring and tolerant attitude towards people with beliefs different from their own. We believe that it should be taught within an atmosphere of care, mutual trust and respect. R.E. enables the children to explore and develop a personal vision of life through their experiences and feelings. It encourages them to develop their sense of curiosity and wonder about the world so that they can find meaning, purpose and value. R.E. contributes positively and powerfully to the spiritual, personal, social, moral and cultural development of pupil. It has a key role to play in enabling pupils to achieve and be prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

### **Implementation**

We follow Hampshire Living Difference IV syllabus for RE. The children are taught through units of learning based on different concepts such as remembering, belonging and celebrating. In Year R, RE is taught across a sequence of lessons to allow children to engage fully in the concepts being taught. In Key Stage 1, RE is taught weekly every half term. The themes and concepts within the units covered reflect a progression in difficulty and complexity from Year R-2. The children are taught first how to attend to their experience of particular concepts, before enquiring into related religious as well as non-religious ways of living, represented in Great Britain and beyond.

In Year R, RE is delivered as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. There will be strong links to the EYFS curriculum requirements for Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Understanding the World. Children will learn about 'making relationships', 'self-confidence and self-awareness', 'managing feelings and behaviour', 'people and communities', and 'the world'. Teaching and learning experiences in the EYFS will capitalise upon opportunities for each child to develop and build upon the characteristics of effective learning.

Within each unit of learning the children use the skills of Religious Education in Living Difference IV, which are the enquiry skills: Communicate, Apply, Inquire, Contextualise and Evaluate. In the EYFS and Key Stage 1, greater time is given to the 'Communicate and Apply' steps of the enquiry process where the children are generally still working with ideas that are familiar to them. They think about their own experience of a concept, before exploring their own responses in relation to others' experience. They then become even more aware of others' responses and might give examples from their own experience of the concept in different situations.

At North Farnborough Infant School, we have a good links with our local church, St Peter's C of E. We also have a variety of other opportunities for first-hand experiences, exploring relevant resources and artefacts, making cross-curricular links and using visits/visitors to enhance and deepen the children's learning and engagement in RE. Teaching and learning activities include opportunities for children to express their thoughts, feelings and responses through, for example: art, role play/drama, music, dance, writing and use of food or cooking. Children take part in Collective Worship times as part of our school and class assemblies.

Safe      Respectful      Ready