

POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our school motto “Strong in Faith, Kind in Heart, United in Success” underpins all that we do. Every classroom has a dedicated RE Prayer and Reflection corner and display area. This reinforces to pupils, staff and visitors the importance of RE in our Christian School.

Aims of Religious Education

In the light of the Christian foundation of Cowley St Laurence primary school our aims are to:

- Help children develop and express their own religious beliefs and values while encouraging them to understand the religious beliefs, attitudes and customs of other people;
- Foster children’s feeling of awe, wonder, respect, delight, joy, mystery and to extend their natural curiosity;
- Encourage in children a recognition of their value and importance as individuals, a sense of responsibility and interrelatedness with other people;
- Help children explore other fundamental issues such as fear, suffering, death, unhappiness, pain, moral issues such as right and wrong, honesty and establish their own personal responses and search for meaning;
- Help children foster a reflective approach to life in the context of understanding the experience, beliefs and religious practices of mankind;
- Introduce children to that Biblical, historical and theological knowledge which form the basis of Christian faith and practice.

Teaching and Learning

Religious Education at Cowley St Laurence is a combination of learning about religion and learning from religion. This is reflected in LDBS syllabus for Religious Education that we follow. However, there are many aspects which are ongoing that are part of the children’s normal development and will be visited on numerous occasions, either in planned ways or incidentally, thus enabling children to clarify their responses in an appropriate manner.

Although Cowley St Laurence is a church school, we serve the local community where there are a variety of faiths and some of these are reflected in our school community. It is therefore important that the children are given an insight into other religious cultures to enable them to develop knowledge of how others worship and put their faith into practice so that understanding and tolerance are encouraged and developed. To this end, our medium term planning includes teaching about and from other world religions, including Islam, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Judaism.

Resources

The aim of Cowley St Laurence is to provide children with a wide variety of resources and experiences to help them in the development of their spiritual insight and religious understanding as well as factual knowledge. These will include artefacts, pictures, icons, music, dance, drama, stories, poetry, ICT visits to different places of worship and meeting people with different faith experiences to their own.

There are supportive clergy and a welcoming church attached to the school. All these have a very important part to play in the development of the children’s understanding, knowledge and faith.

Cowley St Laurence CE Primary School Worcester Road Cowley
Middlesex UB8 3TH Telephone: 01895 462361
Email: cowleystl@fraysacademytrust.org

Head of School: Mr D Davies

www.cowley.hillingdon.sch.uk

Assessment

Progress in Religious Education is measured against a progressive scale of attainment recommended by the LDBS. This begins with pupils being able to recall, retell and name in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, progressing towards pupils making comparisons, explaining and expressing their personal views on Religion by the end of Key Stage 2. Teacher's complete the assessment tracking sheet three times a year, making a note of the children's attainment.

Special Educational Needs

Throughout the delivery of the Religious Education curriculum every effort will be made to ensure that the requirements of children with special educational needs are carefully considered and met, and that all children will have equal opportunity of experience provided. There is support with the key vocabulary in each topic being made aware to every child and appropriate differentiation with challenge.

Withdrawal

It is the policy at Cowley St Laurence Primary School that Collective Worship and Religious Education are for all. Children should not be withdrawn, unless at the request of parents on religious grounds, by a letter to the Head of School who will then arrange a meeting with the parents.

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