

## Religious Education Policy Reviewed July 2021

#### Intent

At Robsack Wood, we believe that Religious Education contributes to the development of the whole person, central to this is the promotion of self-esteem for all pupils. RE encourages the development of values and attitudes, knowledge and understanding that will prepare pupils for their role in our diverse and culturally rich society.

RE is a statutory part of the curriculum, which is administered at a local level in accordance with the East Sussex Agreed Syllabus. The 1996 Education Act requires RE to reflect religious traditions in Britain.

Our aim at Robsack Wood is for all aspects of academy life to promote RE and its importance in society. The aims and purpose of RE are:

- To provide a whole academy approach to ensure depth and balance across the curriculum.
- To provide a high quality provision that all pupils can access.
- To develop pupil's knowledge and understanding of world religions in depth and at appropriate times throughout the year.
- To promote RE through a range of learning activities and opportunities. These include visits, visitors, pictures, stories, music, exploring artefacts, circle time, puppets, drama, role play and collective worship.
- To promote pupil's self-esteem, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, respect, open-mindedness and sensitivity and towards others.
- To provide pupils with opportunities for reflection.
- To promote British Values where appropriate.
- To promote our Academy Values of kindness, respect, determination, courage and honesty.
- To enable pupils to appreciate their own and others' beliefs and cultures, and how these impact on individuals and the wider community.
- To promote pupil's awareness of themselves and others and develop an understanding of the role religion plays in today's society.
- To help pupils develop a curiosity and sense of wonder at the world in which they live.
- To develop the pupil's independent learning and an enquiring approach that considers issues of belief and truth in religion.
- To prepare pupils for life as 'global citizens'.

# **Implementation**

#### The Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Teaching RE at Robsack Wood is approached in a cross curricular way which includes Design Technology, Literacy, Art, Music, Computing, and Evolution of Me to implement the teaching of world religions and key themes. Wherever possible, practical, inspirational and active teaching and learning opportunities are provided for all pupils. Sessions which use the creative learning opportunities of RE are developed across

the curriculum creating a wider dimension including, social, moral, cultural and spiritual aspects of learning. To provide experiences in real contexts pupils will make visits and visitors will be invited into the academy.

The 2011 East Sussex Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education was implemented at Robsack Wood in September 2012. The syllabus has since been revised and provides a balanced curriculum, which has continuity as the pupils progress through the academy, revisiting key concepts each year in more depth.

At Robsack Wood we believe that the depth of knowledge and understanding is key to our pupil's success. We teach Christianity and Judaism across Key Stage One and Two. Islam is a focus for learning in Years 5 and 6.

The whole academy nature of RE is reinforced through daily collective worship and assemblies. When visitors are involved in RE lessons, they will work in accordance with this policy. A health and safety risk assessment is undertaken if appropriate and there will always be a member of teaching staff present. This then involves academy staff and aids their own professional development.

Parents / Carers have the right to withdraw a child from part or all of RE. A letter should be written to the Principal regarding this matter, but it should be made clear to them that they are required to provide an alternative substitute.

#### Impact Assessment

At Robsack Wood assessment enables teachers to plan appropriate teaching strategies and learning activities for the needs of all pupils. Pupils are encouraged to be reflective in their religious learning and be integral to the assessment process. At the start of each unit pupils are asked to consider what they already know and what they would like to learn. At the end of the unit they are asked to reflect upon what they have learnt and what they need to know / understand more about in future.

They will be used as a means of informing pupils of the progress they have made and what they need to do to improve their performance. This will identify areas of strength and weakness in pupils and inform future planning.

### **Policy Status and Review**

| Written by:    | RE Subject Leader |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Owner:         | RE Subject Leader |
| Status:        | Approved          |
| Approval date: | July 2020         |
| Review date:   | July 2023         |