



## Religious Education at St Luke's

### Intent

The Religious Education Statement of Entitlement for Church of England Schools (2019) states that Religious Education should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It should help educate for dignity and respect, encouraging all to live well together.

**'Such an approach is offered through a commitment to generous hospitality, being true to our underpinning faith, but with a deep respect for the integrity of other religious traditions (and worldviews) and for the religious freedom of each person.'**

At St. Luke's our Religious Education lessons provide an environment where everyone can flourish and have a life enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and Jesus Christ. In addition, through an inquiry approach based around 'big questions', we enable our pupils to develop an interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different beliefs, religious or otherwise and cultural diversity.

Within the Religious Education curriculum children develop an understanding of the schools Christian vision and values as well as developing an understanding of the fundamental British values: self and identity, respect and tolerance, democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty.

### Implementation

St Luke's Primary School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England school. The Governors have adopted the Understanding Christianity Curriculum, as recommended by the Diocese of Chelmsford alongside the Newham Syllabus, agreed by the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) 2022.

Religious Education in the EYFS is taught within the context of the 'Curiosity Approach' that emphasises a stimulating environment and is based upon child led, inquiry based learning which enhances confidence, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

At Key Stage 1 and 2, there is a systematic study of Christianity, based on the Big Story of the Bible. This includes an exploration of the Creation Story, The Gospels, The People of God, Incarnation and Salvation. In addition we explore the other 5 principle religions in the UK (Sikhism, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam and Buddhism).



The syllabus provides opportunities to teach all religions practised within our school community including atheist and agnostic points of view.

Pupils handle artefacts, explore sacred texts and use imaginative play or drama to express feelings and ideas. Each Year group visits a place of worship to enable real and hands-on learning opportunities. Pupils learn through a range of stories, develop a religious vocabulary and interpret religious symbolism in a variety of forms.

Pupils are encouraged to think critically and raise fundamental questions about beliefs and values.

## **Impact**

At St. Luke's, we introduce children to a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice; we also provide sequential, high-quality teaching about a range of faiths and worldviews, preparing our pupils to thrive in the diverse community of Newham and the increasingly interdependent world.

Pupils are confident and resilient in their own religious beliefs and identity, simultaneously showing mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and challenging prejudice where necessary.

Pupils have a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them. Pupils are reflective, offering their own thoughtful and informed insights into religious and secular world-views.

Children from St. Luke's are prepared to live positive and fulfilling lives, leaving our school able to fully participate in life in modern Britain.

## **Enrichment**

Children at St. Luke's are given many enrichment opportunities as part of the wider RE Curriculum. Children have opportunities to go on trips to visit places of worship, experience hands-on learning using artefacts and benefit from visiting faith speakers.

RE Ambassadors share their RE knowledge with the whole school and contribute further to the development of RE. There are half termly lunch time opportunities for children to explore faith celebrations through the medium of art. Children are encouraged to take part in whole school RE projects and competitions.