

## **Religious Education (RE) Policy**

### **Introduction:**

At The Tapscott Learning Trust we believe that the learning and teaching of Religious Education (RE) plays an important part in the Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development of each child. We understand that National legislation requires that RE is part of the School Curriculum for all our children including all pupils within our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

Our scheme of work is based upon the **Newham Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education**. Exploring Beliefs and Celebrating Diversity, is an integral aspect of our curriculum and aims to ensure that we prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain as well as foster in our pupils an interest and respect in the world in which they live.

### **Aims:**

- Encourage pupils to have an understanding that they are equal, valued and valid members of a multi-faith School and Community.
- To promote respect, understanding and tolerance for all and no faiths and non religious perspectives.
- Develop an awareness of the spiritual dimensions of life.
- To promote a positive self-image and present pupils with a code of moral behaviour required for living in a harmonious community.
- To understand how religious beliefs, values and practices affect people's lives.
- To develop a willingness to see that others have a right to a point of view.
- Encourage reflection, questioning and reasoning to enable decision-making.
- Provide opportunities for sharing knowledge and develop understanding of different faiths, views, perspectives and beliefs.

### **Implementation:**

At the Tapscott Learning Trust, RE is taught as part of the whole school curriculum. The Scheme of work is based on the Newham Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. The content of this scheme has been adjusted and written to cover the needs of our pupils. The class teacher is responsible for delivering the lessons in conjunction with the whole-school framework. The input of the teacher should enable pupils to examine and understand their own beliefs and experience, while appreciating the role of the community in respect to the child's own personal faith and/or beliefs.

Religious Education is taught through class discussions, sharing of experiences, lifestyles and appropriate festivals throughout the year, practical activities such as art, drama, and educational visits to places of Worship in the local area, exploration of artefacts, songs, videos and visits from faith leaders (Please see TTLT Visiting Speakers Policy).

There is a systematic study of Christianity and the other principle religions in the UK - Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism, along with Humanism. The units highlight opportunities to learn outside the classroom as well as creatively through the arts, and the scheme of work has RE skill sets that children should acquire and build up on their time at school.

### **The curriculum**

The curriculum is designed to draw from a range of religious material, such as stories, relating to their own lives and others' experiences. The children are encouraged to reflect on belonging, look at different symbols that are special to different religions, people and communities. Compare similarities and differences within religions and aspects of identity and relationships. (See the curriculum maps on the website for more information).

### **Inclusion**

RE aims to meet the needs of all children through planned differentiation, questioning, presentation techniques and resources. This will include adapted presentations to account for children's different learning styles.

### **Assessment:**

Pupil progress is monitored and assessed as part of the school's assessment and monitoring policies and procedures. Parents are informed of their child's progress and achievements through reports and at Parents' Evenings.

**Withdrawal Procedures:**

Parents who wish to withdraw their children, because of personal choice or religious affiliation, from some or all of the Religious Education delivered, are permitted to do so, once they have made a formal request in writing, and this has been agreed by the Head Teacher. However, it is always hoped that we can find a way to keep all children involved in their religious education. A record of withdrawals will be kept by the school.

**Review:**

This policy will be reviewed in line with our policy cycle.

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