



Religious Education

'Learning Together, Learning to be Together, Sharing God's Love'

'We love, because God first loved us.' 1 John 4:19

At Pye Bank, we believe that Religious Education plays a crucial role in promoting respect, tolerance, and understanding of different cultures, beliefs, and values. Our RE curriculum is designed to encourage students to explore a variety of religious traditions and worldviews, helping them to develop their own understanding of moral and ethical issues in a safe and supportive environment.

Religious Education is a legal entitlement for every pupil. Its place in our school curriculum acknowledges the important role which beliefs and values play in people's lives and that religious beliefs and practices are as important in the lives of as many people worldwide today as they have been throughout history. RE offers pupils an opportunity to develop a better understanding of themselves, the people around them and the world in which they live.

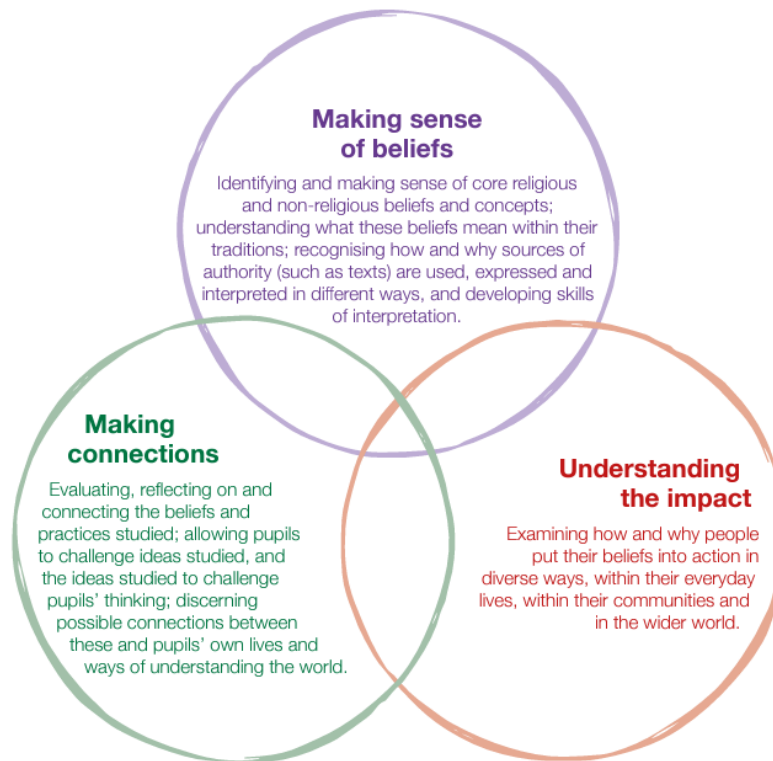
The RE curriculum at Pye Bank has a clear progression from FS to Y6 which is planned and structured to ensure that current learning builds systematically on previous learning in a spiral approach. We follow the Understanding Christianity program and RE Today for other world religions, in line with the Sheffield Syllabus which sets out the aims and programs of study for RE. The Diocese provides us with additional guidance suited to the particular needs of a Church School and supports our overall aim to provide quality education within a caring and supportive Christian environment.

Pye Bank's RE curriculum is progressive from FS to Year 6. Pupils focus on one topic each half term and pupils participate in a weekly RE lesson, focusing on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. Discreet vocabulary progression also forms part of the units of work. Pupils learn about and from Christianity in depth and also about and from three other principal religions represented in Britain; Islam, Judaism and Hinduism. Pupils also participate in thematic units which focus on linking pupils learning from all religions together. These build on learning by comparing the religions, beliefs and practices studied. Throughout all units of work, pupils are encouraged to think about the 'Big Picture' of RE and reflect on their own personal knowledge, views and beliefs making connections wherever possible.

In order to support teachers in exploring the selected beliefs, the curriculum sets out an underlying teaching and learning approach, whereby pupils encounter core concepts in religions and beliefs in a coherent way, developing their understanding and their ability to handle questions of religion and belief.

The teaching and learning approach has three core elements (making sense of beliefs/text, understanding the impact and making connections) which are woven together to provide breadth and balance within teaching and learning about religions and beliefs. Teaching and learning in the classroom will encompass all three elements, allowing for overlap between elements as suits the religion, concept and question being explored. These elements set the context for open exploration of religion and belief. They offer a structure through which pupils can encounter diverse religious traditions alongside non-religious worldviews – which reflect the backgrounds of many pupils in our schools. The elements present a broad and flexible strategy that allows for different traditions to be treated with integrity. These elements offer a route through each unit while also allowing for a range of questions reflecting different approaches, for example, from religious studies, philosophy, sociology, ethics and theology. (Sheffield Syllabus, 2024-2029)

Three core elements:



The RE curriculum is enriched by establishing cross-curricular links and providing on and off-site subject or topic related experiences; for example, visits to local religious places of worship, meeting local religious leaders and exploring the views of local community members. Our school works closely with Christ Church, Pitsmoor and Rev Pip Salmon, a close link with the church community is encouraged through worship, commitments and the marking of important celebrations within the Christian calendar. The children are also encouraged to help the wider community and to support both local and worldwide charities.