Worldviews- Religious Education at Blaydon West Primary School

At Blaydon West Primary School, we place a great emphasis on the importance of Worldviews within our curriculum. RE provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self, the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, of other principal religions, other religious traditions and worldviews that offer answers to the questions above. RE offers pupils the opportunity to examine the significance of religion in relation to themselves and others, as they consider how religion and beliefs have an impact on individuals and groups in local, national and global contexts. It offers opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development and it encourages pupils to explore their own beliefs (whether they are religious or not) in the light of what they learn. RE encourages empathy and enables pupils to develop their own sense of identity and belonging.RE encourages respect for all, including those with differing faiths and beliefs, as pupils develop understanding and appreciation of our diverse society and world. RE helps to challenge prejudice, discrimination and racism.

Intention

- In our **Early Years Foundation Stage**, we aim to:
  - Introduce them to different beliefs, cultures, and traditions.
  - Support pupils in reflecting on their own feelings and experiences, while using their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.
  - For pupils to begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects.

- In **Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2**, pupils study the National Curriculum for Worldviews and we aim to:
  - Develop our pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain, so that they to grow into empathetic individuals who appreciate the way religious beliefs shape life and behaviour.
  - Develop pupils' critical thinking skills and their knowledge and understanding of other Worldviews and religions.

Implementation

- The Worldviews subject leader is responsible for the curriculum design, delivery and impact in this subject. This includes regular reviews to ensure that it is being implemented well and coverage and breadth and balance is adequate.
- To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in Worldviews we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. We use the Discovery RE Framework as a starting point to support us structuring our scheme of work.
- In the Early Years, Blaydon West follows the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Key content for Worldviews is predominantly covered within the area of learning 'Understanding the World' and can be learnt through adult-led whole class lessons, small group work and/or independent activities.
- A whole-school overview has been implemented to ensure coverage: Key faiths taught in school are revisited twice. Islam- Y2 and 6, Hinduism- Y3 and 5, Judaism- Y1 and 4. All year groups teach aspects of Christianity through the academic year.

- The 'Big questions' in each of these enquiry-based topics progressively build on the pupils' knowledge and understanding.
- Learning is carefully sequenced and structured to ensure knowledge of religions and worldviews build over time and the following principles shape RE lessons at Blaydon West –
    - Regular retrieval practice to move learning to the long-term memory
    - Engagement- promoting curiosity
    - Investigation- opportunities to question, debate and communicate religious belief, worldviews and philosophical ideas
    - Evaluation- development of pupils' explanations of their ideas and understandings
    - Expression- pupils respond personally and creatively to what they have learned.
- Pupils take part in annual whole school celebrations for different World faiths that are represented in school as well as an 'Interfaith' week which exposes them to other World faiths not explicitly taught.

Impact

- Pupils will be equipped to understand and appreciate other people's values, beliefs, attitudes and religious rituals.
- A culture of tolerance and respect across school.
- Pupils will have broad and secure understanding of major world religions and beliefs.
- Pupils think critically about big questions, and reflect on their own beliefs.
- Pupils show increased respect for diversity, have improved communication skills, and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

We will measure the impact of our Worldviews curriculum through the following methods:

- Pupil discussions about their learning
- Evidence of subject knowledge being taught through planning and floor books
- Reflection on standards achieved against the planned outcomes i.e. annual school improvement plan
- Regular moderation tasks to monitor the impact of the knowledge and skills that are being taught i.e. coverage of topics, progression of skills etc.

Worldviews Lead: Z Brown 2026-2027