



Moor First School

Religious Education

'Together we unlock potential and learn for life.'

### Intent

At Moor First School, our intent is to provide a high-quality, ambitious and carefully sequenced Religious Education curriculum that enables pupils to become religiously literate and thoughtful members of a diverse society.

In alignment with our whole-school vision, *"Together we unlock potential and learn for life"*, Religious Education equips pupils with the knowledge and understanding to:

- Explore different religious and non-religious worldviews
- Understand and respect diversity in beliefs, customs and traditions
- Reflect on their own ideas, values and identity

Our curriculum is designed to:

- Develop curiosity, empathy and open-mindedness
- Build respect, tolerance and understanding of others
- Encourage pupils to engage in thoughtful discussion, reflection and enquiry

Through a knowledge-rich and vocabulary-focused curriculum, pupils are supported to:

- Make meaningful connections between beliefs, practices and values
- Retrieve and apply prior learning across units
- Develop secure and progressive understanding over time

Religious Education contributes significantly to pupils' cultural capital, enabling them to understand religion's role in shaping society, culture and community life, and to live well in a religiously plural and open society.

To ensure progression and high expectations, learning is structured through:

- Beginning – introducing key beliefs, vocabulary and concepts
- Advanced – developing understanding and making connections
- Deepening – evaluating ideas, reflecting critically and applying learning

Our RE curriculum follows a spiral model, where key themes such as beliefs, practices, identity, and meaning are revisited across year groups with increasing depth and complexity. This enables pupils to:

- Build on prior knowledge
- Strengthen long-term memory through retrieval and revisiting key ideas
- Develop increasingly sophisticated understanding and reflection skills

## Implementation

### **Curriculum Structure and Progression**

Religious Education at Moor First follows the Staffordshire SACRE Agreed Syllabus, ensuring breadth, balance and challenge.

The curriculum is structured around three key enquiry approaches:

- **Explore** – introducing and investigating religious concepts
- **Engage** – developing understanding through discussion and enquiry
- **Reflect** – encouraging personal response and critical thinking

These are underpinned by six key concept areas:

1. Beliefs, teachings and sources
2. Practices and ways of life
3. Expressing meaning
4. Identity, diversity and belonging
5. Meaning, purpose and truth
6. Values and commitments

These concepts are revisited across the curriculum in a spiral sequence, supporting progression and deepening understanding over time.

Religious Education is taught through blocked units each term, allowing pupils to:

- Immerse themselves in learning
- Develop deeper understanding
- Make sustained connections within and across units

### **Curriculum Coverage**

Pupils study a range of religions across the school:

- **EYFS** – Christianity, with introduction to festivals and stories from Buddhism and Islam
- **Key Stage 1 (Years 1–2)** – Christianity, Islam and Sikhism
- **Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3–4)** – Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism

This ensures pupils develop a broad and balanced understanding of world religions and beliefs.

### **Teaching and Learning Approach**

Teaching reflects Moor First's research-informed pedagogy, including:

Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction:

- Regular retrieval and review of prior learning
- Careful sequencing in small, manageable steps
- Questioning and discussion to deepen thinking

- Frequent checks for understanding

The 'I do, We do, You do' model:

- Teacher modelling of key concepts
- Guided discussion and exploration
- Independent reflection and response

Pupils are explicitly taught subject-specific vocabulary, enabling them to articulate ideas clearly and confidently.

### **Learning Experiences and Enquiry**

Religious Education is delivered through rich, engaging and varied experiences, including:

- Handling artefacts and sacred objects
- Exploring religious texts and stories
- Engaging in discussion, debate and circle time
- Responding to art, music, images and drama
- Using technology and video resources

Pupils also participate in:

- Assemblies focused on beliefs, values and reflection
- Visits to places of worship, enhancing real-world understanding

These approaches support pupils in developing deeper understanding through exploration and investigation, in line with the whole-school curriculum aims.

### **Inclusion and Adaptation**

Our RE curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all pupils:

- Learning is carefully scaffolded and adapted
- Pupils are encouraged to share opinions respectfully

- Opportunities are provided for all pupils to engage, reflect and succeed

This ensures all learners develop:

- Confidence in expressing ideas
- Respect for differing viewpoints
- Critical thinking and reflection skills

### **Early Years Foundations**

In EYFS, Religious Education is an integral part of the curriculum, where children:

- Explore stories from a range of religions and worldviews
- Engage in discussion and role play
- Visit the local church and reflect on their experiences

This provides a strong foundation for developing awareness, curiosity and respect.

### **Assessment and Retention**

Assessment is aligned with whole-school practice:

- Ongoing assessment for learning through discussion and observation
- Planned retrieval opportunities to support long-term memory
- Use of pupil responses to assess understanding and reflection

This ensures learning is embedded, progressive and meaningful

### Impact

The impact of our Religious Education curriculum is that pupils leave Moor First as respectful, informed and reflective individuals, prepared to live in a diverse society.

Pupils will:

- Demonstrate a secure knowledge of a range of religions and worldviews
- Use subject-specific vocabulary accurately when discussing beliefs and practices
- Make connections between different beliefs and values
- Show respect, empathy and understanding towards others
- Reflect thoughtfully on their own beliefs, values and identity

Pupils will also develop key life skills, including:

- Respect and tolerance
- Communication and discussion
- Critical thinking and reflection
- Confidence in expressing ideas

Evidence of impact is seen through pupils' discussions, written responses and reflections, demonstrating clear progression and understanding over time.

Ultimately, pupils leave Moor First as religiously literate, open-minded and thoughtful individuals, equipped with the knowledge and cultural understanding needed to thrive in modern Britain and beyond.