

Curriculum

Our curriculum aims to:

- explore religious ideas through reflection, empathy and imagination
- help children to recognise their own uniqueness as human beings, and affirm their self-worth
- allow children to feel confident about their own beliefs and identity and share them without fear of embarrassment or ridicule
- provide children an opportunity to develop a realistic and positive sense of their own religious and spiritual ideas
- become increasingly sensitive to the impact of their ideas and behaviour upon other people
- encourage children to listen carefully to the views of others and acknowledge bias in their own views
- recognise the rights of others to hold their own views
- appreciate that people's religious beliefs are often deeply felt

Feedback

- Verbal feedback is given within the lesson where appropriate.

- Detailed written feedback given at least every two weeks outlining praise, misconceptions and points of improvement.

- Notes and long writes are marked for literacy (Capital letters, spelling and punctuation) according to the whole school literacy policy. They are also marked for their religious content and written feedback given.

RE and World Views at PHS

Key features of teaching in RE/WV

- Begin a lesson with a short review of previous learning
- Present new material in small steps with student practice after each step
- Limit the amount of material students receive at one time
- Give clear and detailed instructions and explanations
- Ask a large number of questions and check for understanding
- Provide a high level of active practice for all students
- Guide students as they begin practice
- Think aloud and model steps
- Provide models of worked-out problems
- Ask students to explain what they have learnt
- Check the responses of all students
- Provide systematic feedback and corrections
- Use more time to provide explanations
- Provide many examples
- Re-teach material when necessary
- Prepare students for independent practice
- Monitor students when they begin independent practice

Rationale

The PHS RE curriculum is enquiry based, providing pupils the opportunity to explore religious ideas while reflecting on their own beliefs and identity. Pupils are encouraged to develop their own self-worth and beliefs while gaining knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values.

It is based on 6 big ideas that are explored through different topics:



The choices made within our RE curriculum will allow children to develop a deep understanding of religious beliefs. The curriculum promotes children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development while preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. The RE curriculum has a vital role to play in developing children as successful learners, confident individuals and positive contributors. Children will know religious education both as a discipline to be studied and as a field of knowledge that can shape their outlook now and in the future. Knowing that they could, should they wish to, have a career in this area in the future. They will recognise and appreciate how religion may affect the future on a personal, national and global level.

RE and World Views at PHS

History

Aim: *To ensure that all students leave Portal House with high levels of literacy. To develop a highly skilled workforce. To prepare students for life beyond Portal House School.*

Students look at significant historical individuals through the lens of 'ideas' including MLK, Malcolm X, Gandhi and the historical context they find themselves in. Further, it covers significant religious historical events of the UK through the exploration of topics, mainly focused on Christianity and Islam.

Numeracy

Aim: *To ensure that all students leave Portal House with high levels of numeracy. To develop a highly skilled workforce. To prepare students for life beyond Portal House School.*

Although numeracy might seem limited mainly to chronological analysis and quantitative work, mathematical skills are used extensively in the planning and creation of tables, charts and diagrams. There are numeracy related tasks inserted into quite a number of lessons such as calculating the percentage of adherents to different faiths in the UK

Literacy

Aim: *To ensure that all students leave Portal House with high levels of literacy. To develop a highly skilled workforce. To prepare students for life beyond Portal House School.*

•Learning through talk.

Using talk to clarify and present ideas
Active listening to understand
Talking and thinking together

•Learning from text.

Developing research and study skills
Reading for meaning
Understanding how texts work

•Learning through writing.

Using writing as a tool for thought
Structuring and organising writing
Developing clear and appropriate expression

SMSC

•**Spiritual:** Explore beliefs and experience; respect values; discover oneself and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

•**Moral:** Recognise right and wrong; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

•**Social:** Use social skills in different contexts; work well with others; resolve conflicts; understand how communities work.

•**Cultural:** Appreciate cultural influences; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Educational Visits

To support their studies and make much of what is learned come to life we arrange exciting educational visits for students to a number of places of educational interest.