RAVENSWOOD SCHOOL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Aims

Through Religious Education and building on pupils' own experiences Ravenswood School aims to:

- Provide high standards of teaching and learning of key skills.
- To meet the needs and aspirations of all the pupils.
- To make a major contribution to pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and PSHCE.
- Prepare pupils for life within a multi-cultural society: life in modern Britain and understand British Values.
- Support pupils to understand and know how to access support from radicalisation, extremism, islamophobia, anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance.

Objectives

Ravenswood School aims to provide a Religious Education matched to each pupil's prior learning and needs.

We offer pupils the opportunities to:

- Develop ideas of self, self-confidence and awareness as individual members of society.
- Develop key skills - Communication skills, information processing skills, enquiry skills, social skills, working with others and links to empathy, reasoning, problem solving and creative thinking skills.
- Develop positive attitudes towards and empathy for, others, respecting their beliefs and life/religious experiences.
- Develop skills in making personal choices recognising their own accountabilities for their actions and behaviours.
- Discuss fundamental questions of life.
- Develop their own beliefs and values.
- Create a community of enquiry.

Special schools are required to provide Religious Education 'as far as practicable', depending on the needs of the pupils. Staff increase the accessibility for all pupils through careful planning to include all and where necessary use supportive communication modes and sensory learning activities.

- Using sensory materials and resources through sight, touch, sound, taste or smell
- Giving pupils first hand experiences
- Organising a range of activities to give personal experience.

Curriculum

Guidance for school planning will be taken from:

- Discovery RE Curriculum (which is aligned to the Somerset Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (March 2022): Awareness, Mystery and Value).

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- Schemes of work are adapted to support pupils to learn about a range of religions and finding out about key religious beliefs, rituals and festivals.
- Subject overviews can be found on our school website.
- Learning is supported by visits to local places and visitors to the school
- Pupils in Primary and Secondary have timetabled weekly RE lessons.
- Post 16 have three RE days per year where they learn more about a specific religion or about multi-cultural Britain.
- Extra-curricular whole-school DAB days throughout the year support further learning about different groups of people and celebrate cultures form around the world.

Assessment
The assessment of Religious Education follows the School Assessment System which is linked to the Attainment Targets from the Primary National Curriculum 2014, Engagement Model and Pre-Key Stage Standards.

Monitoring and Evaluation
Religious Education is monitored and evaluated in accordance with the following strategies.

- Direct classroom observation of teaching and learning.
- Ensuring planning reflects all areas of the programmes of study.
- Moderating the teacher assessment.
- Scrutiny of work.
- Access to educational visits or visitors to school related to Religious Education.

Equal Opportunities and Ethnic Minorities
Subject to those parents who wish to withdraw their children from Religious Education all pupils will work towards the stated aims irrespective of:

- Gender
- Special Educational Needs
- Ethnic background

A broad and balanced accessible curriculum will be delivered to pupils covering a range of faiths and beliefs. The aim of the curriculum is to prepare pupils for life within a multi-cultural Britain.

Parents
A parent's rights under the Education Act 1996 and Education Act 2002 to withdraw their child from Religious Education will be observed. Parents/ carers, and pupils aged 18 years and above can request to withdraw from all RE lessons or partial RE lessons.

The school website has the most recent information about what is being taught in each class. Class teachers will notify parents/carers of how they can support or assist their child's learning in the subject and of their progress Religious Education.

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Community

The local Rector from Christ Church in Nailsea is invited to attend school services at Christmas, Easter and the end of the Summer term. This is for a celebration of the pupil's achievements. Although it is supported by the Rector this is not a religious ceremony. Parents/ carers can withdraw their child from attending this if they so choose. Parents/ carers are invited to attend these events too, where space allows.

Ravenswood School has organised links within the local community to create the opportunities for visits from a range of religious leaders, as well as giving pupils the opportunities to experience places of worship, customs and practices from all religions as far as possible, not just Christianity.

History of Document

Previous versions now deleted from system. New issue:

Issue No.	Author	Date Reviewed	Approved by Governors on:	Comments
8	School	June 2020		Updated in line with latest guidance.
9.	School	June 2021	30.06.2021	
10.	School	July 2022		No amendments
11.	School	July 2023	05.07.2023	Updated with new RE scheme of work and school now too big to attend church services in local church.
12	School	July 2024	03.07.24	Updated name of RE curriculum
13.	School	July 2025	02.07.2025	No amendments
14.	School	July 2026		Minor changes.

Linked policies:

Curriculum policy
Assessment for learning policy
SMSC policy
Collective worship policy