



Religious Education

At Ashlands, we have a statutory obligation to teach Religious Education (RE). The school is committed to developing our children's knowledge and understanding of religions and beliefs through the teaching of RE. We believe that Religious Education plays an important role in the development of the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Through RE, we aim to promote respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourage pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection. Children develop an understanding and appreciation for the expression of beliefs, cultural practices and influence of principle religions and worldviews in the local, national and wider global community.

Our school follows the Bradford agreed syllabus for Religious Education, which allows children to "to explore the commonalities and differences between and within faiths and other worldviews as well as developing an understanding of their own beliefs and those of others". Christianity and Islam are the core religions studied but over their time at Ashlands children also explore Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism.

RE is taught through a variety of strategies. Teaching supports respectful discussion of key issues. Visits to sacred buildings, guest speakers and assemblies based on Christian stories from an 'Open the Book' team are just some of the ways in which children's learning of RE at Ashlands is enhanced.

RE at Ashlands Primary is provided for all pupils and is inclusive and broad minded. Parents do have the right to withdraw pupils from RE. Any parent/carer wishing to do this should make an appointment with the Headteacher.

At Ashlands we:

- Encourage a positive attitude towards all faiths and cultures.
- Promote the values and attitudes necessary for citizenship in a multi-faith and multi-racial society.
- Recognise and celebrate the range of cultures and diversity.
- Enable children to evaluate their own views, and those of others, in a reasoned and informed manner.
- Equip children with the knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions.
- Are open and objective.
- Do not seek to urge religious beliefs on the children, nor compromise the integrity of their own religious position by promoting one tradition over another.