"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart", Colossians 3:23

RE Curriculum Purpose and Rationale

Overarching Curriculum Intent

"***Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart***", Colossians 3:23

At John Fletcher of Madeley, we ensure the individual pupil is at the heart of everything we do, taking into account background, SEND, ability, based on our key Christian Values:

Hope and Aspiration ***"We believe we can"***
To inspire our learners and the community to see learning as a joy: a gateway to a successful future.

- To develop flourishing learners - with children recognising and building their new knowledge.
- To ensure that pupils have experiences beyond their normal range to allow them to have new experiences and develop life skills.

Resilience and Perseverance ***"We know we can"***

- To allow children to learn about themselves as learners: to have a positive mindset and be able to have the self-belief to work through something when it is difficult.
- To develop pupils that are able to learn for themselves and respond positively to challenges.

Compassion and Forgiveness ***"Together we can"***

- Recognising that everyone is different and everyone is precious, we want to foster a safe learning environment by supporting our school community to love each other unconditionally, taking care of each other and our environment.

This will be achieved by providing longer periods of time to learn in depth and allow for spaced repetition for overlearning and first hand experiences to enhance the context by which children access and consolidate knowledge where possible.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart", Colossians 3:23

Curriculum Purpose: Why Study RE?

National Curriculum

Religious education has a unique place as a central subject in the curriculum of John Fletcher of Madeley. It is neither a core nor a foundation subject; the 1988 Education Act states that 'Religious Education has equal standing in relation to core subjects of the National Curriculum in that it is compulsory for all registered pupils'.

John Fletcher of Madeley RE Currciulum 2021-22

We follow the Telford and Wrekin (2021) syllabus, incorporating Understanding Christianity units, as well as Methodist units of work.

This syllabus contains the requirements for religious education as laid down in the relevant Education acts. It highlights some of the features which make religious education important, and demonstrates how it can support the values and aims of the school curriculum. The Syllabus also demonstrates clearly how religious education contributes to learning across the curriculum and to the general teaching requirements of the national curriculum.

Intent

At John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School, all we ask of our children and staff is that 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart' (Colossians 3:23). When people give the best of themselves, they can achieve great things.

As a Church of England and Methodist School, we ensure that there is direct teaching about John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.
We seek to provide our pupils with the opportunity to acquire a knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice; interact with Biblical text and theological ideas; and be engaged and challenged through an exploration of core concepts and questions.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart", Colossians 3:23

The Aims of Religious Education

- To stimulate interest and enjoyment in Religious Education.
- To prepare pupils to be informed, respectful members of society who celebrate diversity and strive to understand others.
- To encourage students to develop knowledge of the beliefs and practices of religions and worldviews, to develop informed opinions and an awareness of the implications of religion and worldviews for the individual, the community and the environment.
- To enable pupils to consider their own responses to questions about the meaning and purpose of life.

Which values underpin the curriculum content?

Our school values and ethos underpin and drive everything we do here at John Fletcher of Madeley Primary.

Hope and Aspiration: "We believe we can"
We want to inspire our learners and the community to see learning as a joy: a gateway to a successful future.

Resilience and Perseverance: "We know we can"
Our School was named after John William Fletcher, the Vicar of Madeley, who was one of the founders of the Methodist Societies which later became known as the Methodist Church. John Fletcher was a humble man of great faith. He chose to fulfil his mission within Madeley, knowing he would have a difficult challenge. Everything he did, he worked with his whole heart. And so, we want all our learners and school community to have a positive mindset: to be able to have the self-belief to work through something when it is difficult.

Compassion and Forgiveness: "Together we can"
Recognising that everyone is different and everyone is precious, we want to foster a safe learning environment by supporting our school community to love each other unconditionally, taking care of each other and our environment. This means to treat each other and our environment with love, kindness, respect and to show forgiveness for one another.

*"**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart**", Colossians 3:23*

How are British Values taught from History?

The British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different beliefs

Teaching of RE at John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School should provide the opportunity for reflection, discussion, dialogue and debate which enables the children to think about the British Values. RE classrooms should be democratic, where children have equal rights to be heard. In RE, children will examine different codes for living and consider the rule of law, where all people are equal before the law. They consider questions about identify and belonging and how mutual tolerance and respect is important to our society. Religion is an excellent tool for considering individual liberty and the greater good.

What links to careers can be made within the RE curriculum?

Through learning about RE, there are many careers which can benefit from it. Some are direct links such as a member of the clergy, others benefit from knowledge of world religions such as within the Police Force

- A member of the clergy
- Missionary
- Outreach worker
- Curator
- Teacher (both primary and secondary)
- Lecturer
- Police Officer
- Charity worker

- Nurse
- Social worker
- Journalist
- Community development worker
- Youth worker

Curriculum Rationale: Why study RE in this way?

Why has the specific knowledge been selected?

We follow the Telford and Wrekin (2021) syllabus, incorporating Understanding Christianity units, as well as Methodist units of work.

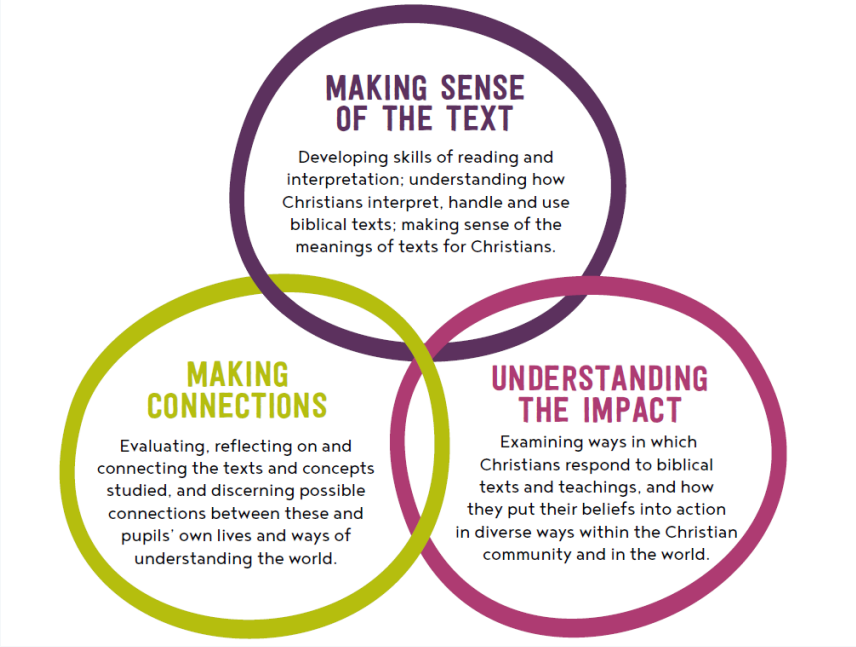
Our vision is to ensure that children leave our school with the ability to think for themselves. We believe it is paramount to explore other world faiths in order to celebrate and foster an awareness of the differences that exist within our school, community and the wider world. It is essential that our RE curriculum ensures that we enable the children to show respect for diversity and differences, whilst simultaneously encouraging them to identify the similarities. We cover a breadth of Faiths to best reflect our community.

We will cover in by the end of Key Stage 1: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and Hinduism

We will cover in by the end of Key Stage 2: Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Humanism.

Understanding Christianity's approach to teaching about Christianity builds up pupils' encounters with biblical concepts through texts, placing the texts and concepts within the wider Bible story. Each unit addresses a concept, through some key questions, exploring core Bible texts, their impact for Christians, and possible implications for pupils. Each unit incorporates the three elements below:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart", Colossians 3:23



Why is it taught in the order that it is?

By building upon their prior knowledge, as children progress throughout the school, they are able to draw upon their understanding of each religion to tackle more challenging concepts such as the journey of life and death, which they encounter in Year 6. Without the foundations of the key facts and concepts at the beginning of their RE learning, and by starting with Christianity and Judaism before progressing to knowledge of more religions, children will find it more difficult to connect the key beliefs and actions of each religion and make comparisons across them.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart", Colossians 3:23

Impact

Through the teaching of our RE curriculum, we enable children to explore other world faiths in order to celebrate and foster an awareness of the differences that exist within our school, community and the wider world. Our RE curriculum teaches our children about a range of world religions, which in turn empowers them to show respect for diversity and differences, whilst simultaneously identify and celebrate the similarities. It provides them with the skills and knowledge necessary for living in the multi-cultural society of today.