

RE

Intent

Differences were not meant to divide but to enrich.

J H Oldham

Religious Education at Marcham Church of England Primary School is an important part of our curriculum. It contributes to the personal development of our pupils and to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural growth. It links with our school values and underpins our understanding of each other in school, in our local community, in Britain and across the world.

We follow the guidance laid down Locally Agreed Syllabus for Oxfordshire, through which we enable our pupils to:

- understand the nature, role and influence of different religions, traditions, beliefs and lifestyles in the world;
- pursue personal quest for meaning, purpose and value;
- formulate reasoned opinions/arguments in relation to controversial issues and truth claims;
- develop understanding of and respect for different beliefs and lifestyles.

We do this through an exploration of pupils' personal experience and self-concept; religious experiences and concepts and human/universal experience and concepts. In learning both *about* and *from* religions, we see RE as a vehicle through which our pupils can flourish individually as well as being able to relate sensitively to others and contribute actively in the many communities of which they are a part. We grapple with some of the big questions of life through RE, and address issues through our school's learning lenses – particularly 'social context' and 'global dimension' - as we encourage our pupils to be 'cultural navigators'. We want our children to develop, through their time with us:

- self-awareness,
- respect for all,
- open-mindedness,
- an enquiring mind
- appreciation
- wonder
- a sense that we can be enriched by the experiences of others.

We take the teaching of RE seriously and we are committed to deliver it within the spiritual context of a Church School. It allows pupils and teachers to understand the Christian traditions, the relationship between the school, the church and the local community and, importantly, what it means to be a Church school in a multi-faith and global context. As well as studying Christianity, we study other faiths, in particular Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and recognise Humanism as a world view.

Enabled by the teaching of RE, we want our children to be humane and compassionate individuals who will create and promote the common good.

An education in the fullness of humanity should be the defining feature of ...schools.

Pope Francis