



THE MARK WAY SCHOOL

R.E. POLICY

Introduction

The purpose of R.E. at The Mark Way School is to support pupils in developing their own coherent patterns of values and principles, and to support spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This entails encouragement of each student to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religions and to their own and others cultural life experience.

Successful outcomes will depend upon careful choice and use of teaching and learning strategies. It is essential that the process of teaching and learning must be applicable to learning for life, in a broad sense, as well as in the context of RE.

A further purpose for RE is to foster mutual understanding between students of differing religions and cultural backgrounds.

The Law

Although there is not a National Curriculum for RE, all maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum requirements to teach a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes RE. All maintained schools therefore have a statutory duty to teach RE.

Entitlement

Every student is entitled to access to all elements of the programme tailored where necessary and appropriate to his or her individual needs. This entitlement will be delivered and assessed through the planned curriculum.

The Right of Withdrawal from RE

At Mark Way we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from parts of, or all RE lessons. They are not legally obliged to state their reasons for doing so. The school would ask any parent considering this to contact the Head teacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties about the policy, provision or practice of religious education at Mark Way School. The school may also wish to review such a request each year, in discussion with the parents.

The Nature of R.E. at Mark Way School

It intends to provide opportunities for pupils to:

Interpret religion in relation to human experience; this is done through the programme of study, which is structured into three main areas:

- Enquiry and skills
- Knowledge and understanding
- Breadth of study

At Mark Way a number of religions are chosen for study:

- Christianity (Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11)
- Sikhism (Year 7)
- Judaism (Year 8)
- Islam (Year 9, 10, 11)

Implementation

The above aims will be implemented by following the programme of study based on the Hampshire Agreed Syllabus – ‘Living Difference IV’ for KS 3 of the National Curriculum which allows development of the key elements. Pupils will study RE as part of a modular Global Citizenship and Culture (GCC) programme, which will also include Geography and History modules.

In Year 10 - 11 all students will study towards a WJEC Eduqas and GCSE Religious Studies GCSE short course qualification.

Studies in the classroom will be supported by educational visits wherever possible.

Assessment

Assessment is on the basis a judgement of pupils’ attainment in RE against GCC key concepts at the end of each unit of study. Evidence will be gathered throughout the unit with assessment opportunities built into each sequence of work to enable a rounded overall judgement at the end of unit to be made.

The assessment for learning framework is used to help pupils assess their own work and set themselves targets for improvement.

Background Documentation used

This policy was written with due reference to the Hampshire Agreed Syllabus, ‘Living Difference’ IV 2021.

Religious education in English schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010

Review

This policy was reviewed by the Humanities/RE coordinator in Autumn 2024. The policy was approved by the Headteacher. The policy will be reviewed in Autumn 2025.