

# PINNER WOOD SCHOOL



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

**Approval Authority**

**Effective From:** September 2023

**Date Ratified by GB:**

**Next Review Date:** September 2025

**Signed by Chair of GB:**

# **PINNER WOOD SCHOOL**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY**

### **Introduction**

Religious Education provides the opportunity for pupils to develop a sense of identity and worth. It enables young people to question, explore and reach an understanding of their place in the scheme of things. They are encouraged to develop and strengthen their own beliefs and values and to learn about and respect those of others.

Religious Education in Pinner Wood School takes account of the requirements set out in the 1988, 1993 and 1996 Education Acts and is taught in accordance with the Harrow Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education 2016.

Our pupils come from families with a wide variety of beliefs, values and life styles, including adherents of many faiths and denominations. Of those who profess religious beliefs and practices, there are large groups of Christians and Hindus, a significant number of Jewish and Muslim families and a few representatives of the Jain and Sikh faiths. We value our links with the local faith communities and create opportunities for visiting places of worship and welcoming visitors to enrich lessons.

### **Aims**

The aims for Religious Education reflect the curricular aims of the school as a whole in that we wish all pupils to have the opportunity to fulfil their potential. It is particularly important to us that Religious Education should:

- teach pupils about Christianity and world religions, their stories, creeds and traditions.
- foster spiritual awareness
- foster a reflective approach to life in the context of knowing about and understanding the experiences, beliefs and religious practices of humankind.
- help pupils discover the part religion has played in the history of the world.
- promote respect and sensitivity towards those with religious beliefs different from their own
- to develop an understanding of the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals and communities.

Like all subjects of the curriculum, Religious Education can be fully effective only when it operates within a framework of provision.

### **Teaching and Learning**

RE will be taught and experienced during assemblies, classroom lessons and general discussions. Teaching strategies may involve music, drama, role play, Oracy, video, visits outside school and visiting speakers.

## **Content and Organisation**

The RE curriculum at Pinner Wood incorporates the six areas of enquiry (A-F) from The Harrow Agreed Syllabus 2023-2028. They are as follows:

A Beliefs, teachings and sources of wisdom

B Practices and ways of life Celebrations, prayer, worship and reflection

C Forms of expressing meaning language and symbolism

D Identity, diversity and belonging Places, communities, rites of passage

E Meaning, purpose and truth Reflection and appreciation Ultimate Questions

F Human responsibility and values

They involve:

- Extending and deepening knowledge (e.g. through increasing use of subject-specific vocabulary)
- , • Asking big questions and expressing views (e.g. with reasoning, examples and relevant material),
- Vocabulary should become wider, more abstract and used more competently,
- Pupils should ask more challenging and perceptive questions,

At Pinner Wood care is taken to ensure that a balance of each of the six areas of enquiry (A-F) are developed throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2.

## **Continuity and Progression**

The use of the Curriculum Framework in conjunction with the Agreed Syllabus ensures continuity not only within Pinner Wood School, but also across other schools in Harrow. Records are passed on to the appropriate High Schools so that progression may continue once the children have left Pinner Wood.

## **Equal Opportunity**

All children have access to the Agreed Syllabus and special provision is made by way of additional support for those children with Statements, where it is felt to be of benefit. R.E. is uniquely placed to promote equal opportunities. It acknowledges existing experiences, family values and the religious and cultural heritage of individual pupils. It seeks to develop in pupils a sensitive awareness of and respect for each other. At Pinner Wood school all children are encouraged to share their own experiences and beliefs whilst at the same time showing respect and sensitivity to those of others.

## **Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring**

Each unit of work should be planned with reference to the Curriculum Framework in conjunction with the Harrow Agreed Syllabus 2023-2028 and its non-statutory schemes of work. Evaluation of the work will take place by the teacher through the weekly planning/evaluation records.

## **Assessment**

Assessment will focus on knowledge and understanding. This will take the form of questions, observations and pictorial and written work. Reports are written at the end of each school year.

## **Community/Trips to Religious Place**

Visits are undertaken each year to local places of worship. Religious leaders and speakers are also welcomed into school, either in assembly time, in the classroom or to promote displays. Trips/visits are planned for each year group to match the curriculum.

Educational visits bring R.E. 'alive' and gives real substance and relevance to Class room learning.

PW has adopted a systematic approach with visiting places of worship so that, as pupils move through the school, they have the opportunity to experience those of the six major world religions:

Year 1 Church

Year 2 Synagogue

Year 3 Hindu Temple

Year 4 Mosque

Year 5 Gurudwara

Year 6 Buddhist Temple

## **Resources**

Resources for the upper and lower school are kept in separate cupboards. Most artefacts and resources are stored in boxes by faith. Colleagues should ensure that artefacts are returned to the appropriate box.