# Religious and Moral Education

# Parents' Information Primary 1

*"<u>Principles and practice</u>*

*Scotland is a diverse nation whose people hold a wide range of beliefs. Religious and moral education enables children and young people to explore the world's major religions and to develop their own beliefs and values."*

Education Scotland, 2015

## Religious and Moral Education

Religious Education has a statutory position in Scottish education. At Ratho Primary School we teach Religious and Moral Education (RME) as one of eight curriculum areas taught within Curriculum for Excellence framework. We reviewed our delivery of the RME programme during 2013 and have a programme of study in place for each class. The three broad subject areas covered are **Christianity, Other World Religions and Beliefs & Values**. We are keen to develop a shared understanding of this programme between home and school.

The Curriculum for Excellence includes the following Experiences and Outcomes for RME:

Learning through Religious and Moral Education enables pupils to:

- recognise religion as an important expression of human experience
- learn about and from the beliefs, values, practices and traditions of Christianity and the world religions selected for study, other traditions and viewpoints independent of religious belief
- explore and develop knowledge and understanding of religions, recognising the place of Christianity in the Scottish context
- investigate and understand the responses which religious and non-religious views can offer to questions about the nature and meaning of life
- recognise and understand religious diversity and the importance of religion in society
- develop respect for others and an understanding of beliefs and practices which are different from my own
- explore and establish values such as wisdom, justice, compassion and integrity and engage in the development of and reflection upon my own moral values
- develop my beliefs, attitudes, values and practices through reflection, discovery and critical evaluation
- develop the skills of reflection, discernment, critical thinking and deciding how to act when making moral decisions
- make a positive difference to the world by putting my beliefs and values into action
- establish a firm foundation for lifelong learning, further learning and adult life.

## Curriculum for Excellence Key Themes:

| Early Level (Nursery-P1) | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Christianity** | **Other World Religions** | **Beliefs and Values** |
| Stories<br>Celebration and festivals<br>Caring and sharing | Stories<br>Sharing and caring<br>Celebrations | Caring and sharing<br>Respect |
| **First Level (P2-P4)** | | |
| **Christianity** | **Other World Religions** | **Beliefs and Values** |
| Bible Stories<br>Key features<br>Annual celebrations<br>Places and artefacts<br>Key values<br>Types of Christianity<br>Personal beliefs | Key beliefs<br>Key features<br>Places and artefacts<br>Personal beliefs<br>Key values<br>Annual celebrations<br>Ritual | Caring and sharing<br>Values<br>Personal beliefs<br>Respect |
| **Second Level (P5-P7)** | | |
| **Christianity** | **Other World Religions** | **Beliefs and Values** |
| Beliefs<br>Bible stories<br>Celebrations and festivals<br>Key values<br>Key figures and beliefs<br>Worship and artefacts<br>Morality<br>Scottish Traditions | Beliefs<br>Stories<br>Annual celebrations<br>Key figures<br>Worship and artefacts<br>Sharing and caring<br>Morality<br>Traditions | Values<br>Diversity<br>Personal beliefs<br>Respect |

## Working in Partnership with local Religious Representatives

In order to compliment the planned Religious and Moral Education teaching programme we look towards engaging with local representatives of all world religions and cultures where possible and relevant.

Any representative that is invited to visit the school liaises closely with the class teacher in preparation for working with the classes and the intended learning is shared.

As a representative of the Christian Religion, Mr Wells (Church of Scotland) visits each class once a term in liaison with the class teachers. Additional representatives are contacted where relevant such as Rabbi Pinny Weinmann (Judaism) and Ms Mansur (Islam).

## Religious Observation

In accordance with the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and the advice contained in the Scottish Government's letter of February 2011 it is the policy of the authority and the school to hold acts of religious observance. The school will follow the City of Edinburgh Council policy of a minimum of six religious observance opportunities per year for each pupil.

The aims of religious observance are defined as:

"To promote the spiritual development of all members of the school community;
To express and celebrate the shared values of the school community"

*Religious Observance Review Group Report*

Religious Observance occasions are based on awareness, spirituality and time for reflection.

## Primary 1

### Key Learning:

- I can recall some stories from the bible
- I can talk about Christian festivals and say why they are important
- I can explore some Christian customs
- I can understand the importance of being fair
- I can care for others and am kind towards them
- I am beginning to show respect for others
- I can share and cooperate with others indoors and outdoors
- I can name Islam, and Judaism
- I know some of the traditions of world religions
- I can discuss the differences between Christianity, Islam and Judaism with regard to traditions when a new baby is born
- I can talk about an Aqiqah ceremony
- I can listen to stories about Muhammad which show care for others
- I can discuss a Muslims duty to help the poor

| P1 Topics | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Christianity** | **Other World Religions** | **Beliefs and Values** |
| The World of the Classroom<br><br>Bible Stories<br><br>Christmas<br><br>Easter | World of the Classroom<br><br>My Family- Babies<br><br>Aqiqah<br>(Islamic alternative to a baby shower)<br><br>Stories | The Class Charter |

## Useful Websites:

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/learninginscotland/curriculumareas/religiousandmoraleducation/index.asp

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learningteachingandassessment/curriculumareas/rme/nondenominational/principlesandpractice/index.asp