Religious and Moral Education

Parents' Information Primary 5

"Principles and practice

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 the 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 to Primary 1)		
Christianity	**Other World Religions**	**Beliefs and Values**
Stories Celebration and festivals Caring and sharing	Stories Sharing and caring Celebrations	Caring and sharing Respect
First Level (Primary 2 to Primary 4)		
Christianity	**Other World Religions**	**Beliefs and Values**
Bible Stories Key features Annual celebrations Places and artefacts Key values Types of Christianity Personal beliefs	Key beliefs Key features Places and artefacts Personal beliefs Key values Annual celebrations Ritual	Caring and sharing Values Personal beliefs Respect
Second Level (Primary 5 to Primary 7)		
Christianity	**Other World Religions**	**Beliefs and Values**
Beliefs Bible stories Celebrations and festivals Key values Key figures and beliefs Worship and artefacts Morality Scottish Traditions	Beliefs Stories Annual celebrations Key figures Worship and artefacts Sharing and caring Morality Traditions	Values Diversity Personal beliefs 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 5: Key Learning

I can describe historical Christian figures such as Moses

I can compare stories from children's and adult bibles

I can discuss common symbols of Christianity

I can name some historical saints and research their lives

I can read an account of the last supper and share my views

I can give reasons why we celebrate Easter

I can research and discuss the reasons for the celebration of Easter

I can describe the important aspects of Ramadan

I can research and share my findings on the 5 Pillars of Islam

I can name some key celebrations in different religions

I can explore how fairtrade has made a difference to the lives of workers across the world

P5 Topics		
Christianity	**Other World Religions**	**Beliefs and Values**
Key Figures- Stories and Influence Christmas Famous Christians Easter Home life	Special Buildings- Key features of a mosque Islam- Ramadan Special Artefacts- Prayer Mats	Fairtrade Global citizenship