



Overview of what the subject entails, the vision

At Whitegate End we aim to develop successful learners through Religious Education. We present interesting and important conceptual challenges to all pupils.

We enable pupils to encounter various religions and how these have shaped British culture and heritage.

In order for our school community to thrive and to live life with fullness and glory, we follow the 3 Rs.

Respect- Love, value and respect each other and reach out to those who need us, to make the world a better place.

Resilience – To work to the best of our ability to understand and communicate with others showing tolerance and resilience.

Responsibility – The Whitegate End community are responsible for creating a happy atmosphere for learning and creating lasting friendships and wonderful memories.

Why we teach it

R.E helps to prepare pupils to become responsible citizens. This is done by raising issues of local, national and global concerns and issues and then placing them in spiritual and moral contexts and understanding that each child has the right to hold different beliefs regardless of background, race or culture. This enables pupils to see diverse religions and beliefs as a significant part of the local, national and global community and of human experience in the wider world.

Aims:

- To deliver a sequenced RE curriculum that is motivational, fun and creative.
- To present engagingly a comprehensive content which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of a variety of different faiths.
- To enable pupils continually to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively;
- To present an authentic vision of religious moral and social teaching and engage children in activities in providing service to others
- To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to respect and understand them;
- To encourage children to reflect on how religion can influence their own and others behavior
- To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum;
- To bring clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.
- To show progression throughout the school in both skills and attitudes towards religion.



Our approach to Religious Education at Whitegate End

We enable each child to:

- Develop their thinking skills in answering life's 'big' questions
- Develop a deeper understanding of religion and how it influences and inspires people around the world.
- Share their knowledge of their own religion and what it means to them

Development of the knowledge/facts

- Pupils are never encouraged just to accept the beliefs that they study, but always learn from them. The process of RE involves three elements: as knowledge and understanding are developed, pupils also develop their creative and critical thinking abilities, and the skills that enable them to reflect and respond to their studies for themselves with increasing depth and sensitivity.
- These three elements imply an investigative and enquiring approach: in RE, pupils ask life's big questions and pursue and explore a widening range of answers. Enquiries are always best when pupils investigate aspects of religions and beliefs at the same time as they explore questions about their own ideas, values, culture, beliefs and spirituality. RE enables all learners to add breadth and depth to their use of higher order thinking skills.

Development of Skills

- Alongside the subject's contribution to pupils' mental, cognitive and linguistic development, RE offers distinctive opportunities to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and skills. RE lessons offer a structured and safe space during curriculum time for reflection, discussion, dialogue and debate. Lessons allow for timely and sensitive responses to be made to unforeseen events of a religious, moral or philosophical nature, whether local, national or global.

How it is taught

- RE is taught in all classes at Whitegate End and is delivered in a number of different formats. The school follows the Oldham SACRE scheme of learning.

Assessment of the subject and how this is used

- Monitoring of teaching and learning takes places each term through Book scrutiny, learning walks, or pupil meetings.
- Lesson observations/learning walks are carried out by the RE Coordinator, Head teacher or Deputy Headteacher (each member of staff is observed once throughout the year).

Links to other areas of the curriculum

RE at Whitegate End links closely with PSHE and RSE, all of these areas of the curriculum are linked to SMSC



Our approach to Religious Education at Whitegate End

SMSC stands for **spiritual, moral, social** and **cultural development**. At Whitegate End SMSC values are taught within RE, through assemblies and throughout the wider curriculum including Global Studies

- Spiritual, e.g. engaging pupils in the 'Big Questions' about the purpose and meaning of life, where they come from, where they are going
- Moral, e.g. following good examples of behaviour and making the correct choices.
- Social, e.g. Making links with the local community and raising money for a variety of different charities.
- Cultural, e.g. teaching pupils the ways in which society do different things and why they may do this.

Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, we are also demonstrating that we are actively promoting the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy, e.g. School Council/Debating
- The rule of law, e.g. school/classroom rules, clear behaviour policies
- Individual liberty, e.g. Encourage students to be independent in their learning
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs e.g. Emphasising in RE and PSHE lessons that every person is unique and "created in the image of God"