



## **Religious Education (RE) Policy**

### **1 Introduction**

At Parkwood, the teaching of Religious Education forms part of the basic curriculum and should be taught according to the locally agreed syllabus. (LEA agreed syllabus) as a school, which reflects a diversity of cultures and religious backgrounds, we need our pupils to appreciate and learn from that diversity.

### **2. Aims**

#### **2.1** The aims of RE in Parkwood are to:

- Help children develop spiritually by ensuring that they learn about religious and from religions.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions represented in Great Britain today and recognise that some people may choose not to adhere to a religion.
- Foster an understanding of the influences of beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, their communities and culture.
- Develop an ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues, and to enhance their spiritual, cultural and social development.
- Encourage and reflect attitude to life, thus helping them to come to their own beliefs and supporting a positive approach to life.

### **3 Time allocated to RE**

#### **3.1** RE is of equal importance and should be allocated the same amount of time as other foundation subjects.

We recommend that RE should be taught for about:

36 hours per year (approximately 45 min per week) at Key Stage 1

45 hours per year (approximately 1 hour per week) at Key Stage 2

### **4 Breadth & Balance**

#### **4.1** In the early years Religious Education is taught through themes. An agreed scheme of work (developed by a Hackney working party) is currently in place. It provides framework for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in RE. In Key Stage 1 the framework has outlined the aspects of the main religions that should be taught, including Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

#### **4.2** The scheme of work outlines the knowledge children should have about religious festivals, their importance to the believers of that faith and how these festivals are celebrated. The festivals outlined are of the Hindu, Buddhist and the Jewish faiths.

**4.3** In Key Stage 2 coverage is given to six major religions. These are Sikhism, Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Christianity. Teachers should allocate more time to the teaching of Christianity.

## **5 Religious Festivals**

**5.1** Festivals will be studied as part of the scheme of work. We will promote and take into account the belief systems within our school when deciding on the observance of religious festivals within our classes or as a whole school.

## **6 Resources**

**6.1** The current store of resources includes artefacts, videos, books, stories, pictures and poster packs. Resources are held centrally under religious categories and are continuously updated.

We also borrow further resources on a termly basis, from the Tower Hamlets Schools Library.

**Signed:**

**Date:**