

## Religious Education at Droxford Junior School

It is a legal requirement for Religious Education (RE) to be taught according to the guidance in Hampshire's locally agreed syllabus for RE, *Living Difference 4*. Religious Education in Droxford Junior School meets these requirements by enabling children to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religious and life experiences in their local communities and the wider world. To ensure continuity in RE across all key stages within the pupils' schooling, at Droxford Junior we focus on elements of Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

The RE curriculum is carefully planned to develop children as discerning and critical thinkers when exploring their own and others' beliefs, practices and behaviour. Pupils' attention is focussed on key concepts or ideas, appropriate to age and experiences, which underpin religious and human behaviour. The concept is the *hook* on which their learning experiences might include discussion, debate, visits, visitors, role play, drama and art. Units of work have been devised on a two year rolling programme

In Year 3 /4 children explore the concepts of Ritual, Symbolism, Holy, Remembering, Worship, Belief, Messages, Authority, Light, Symbols and temptation. These concepts are explored within the context of Christian, Jewish and Islamic festivals, the exploration of sacred texts and stories which relate to the children's own experiences.

In years 5 /6 children explore the concepts of God, Sacred, Prophecy, Umma, Resurrection, Rites of Passage, Stewardship, Wisdom, Interpretation, Justice, Law and Sacrifice. These, more challenging concepts build on the children's prior learning and links are made between Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Units of work for RE that draw on aspects of Christianity and Christian festivals enable us to draw on the school's close links with Droxford Parish Church (St Mary and All Saints Church ) and to use the Church as a resource for learning. Similarly, visits might be made to other places of worship (the Synagogue or Mosque) either remotely or in reality.

Where possible, links are made between RE and other areas of the curriculum creating more holistic learning. For example "Our Green

Planet” provides opportunities to explore creation stories from different cultures, and the Unit on the concept *Holy* in the context of *Mary* offers opportunities to explore and create religious art. While exploring the concept of Sacred, links are drawn to the South Downs National Park, in which the school site is situated.

***At Droxford Junior we ensure that the RE curriculum we provide is entirely inclusive for all pupils. However, we are required by law to inform parents and carers that they have the right to withdraw their children from parts of or all RE lessons. Please contact the head teacher for more information if required.***