

THE MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy for Religious Education

'At its best, RE is intellectually challenging and personally enriching. It affords pupils both the opportunity to see the religion and non-religion in the world, and the opportunity to make sense of their own place in that world.'

'OFSTED research review', May 2021

The National Curriculum states the legal requirement that:

'Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based, and which:

- **promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils; and**
- **prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.**

All state schools ... must teach religious education ... All schools must publish their curriculum by subject and academic year online'.

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum requirements to teach a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes RE. They therefore have a statutory duty to teach RE.

The RE curriculum is determined by the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE), which is responsible for producing the locally agreed syllabus for RE. Agreed Syllabuses used in schools which are not designated with a religious character must 'reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain'. All schools must recognise diverse religions and systems of belief in the UK both locally and nationally.

Principal aim

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

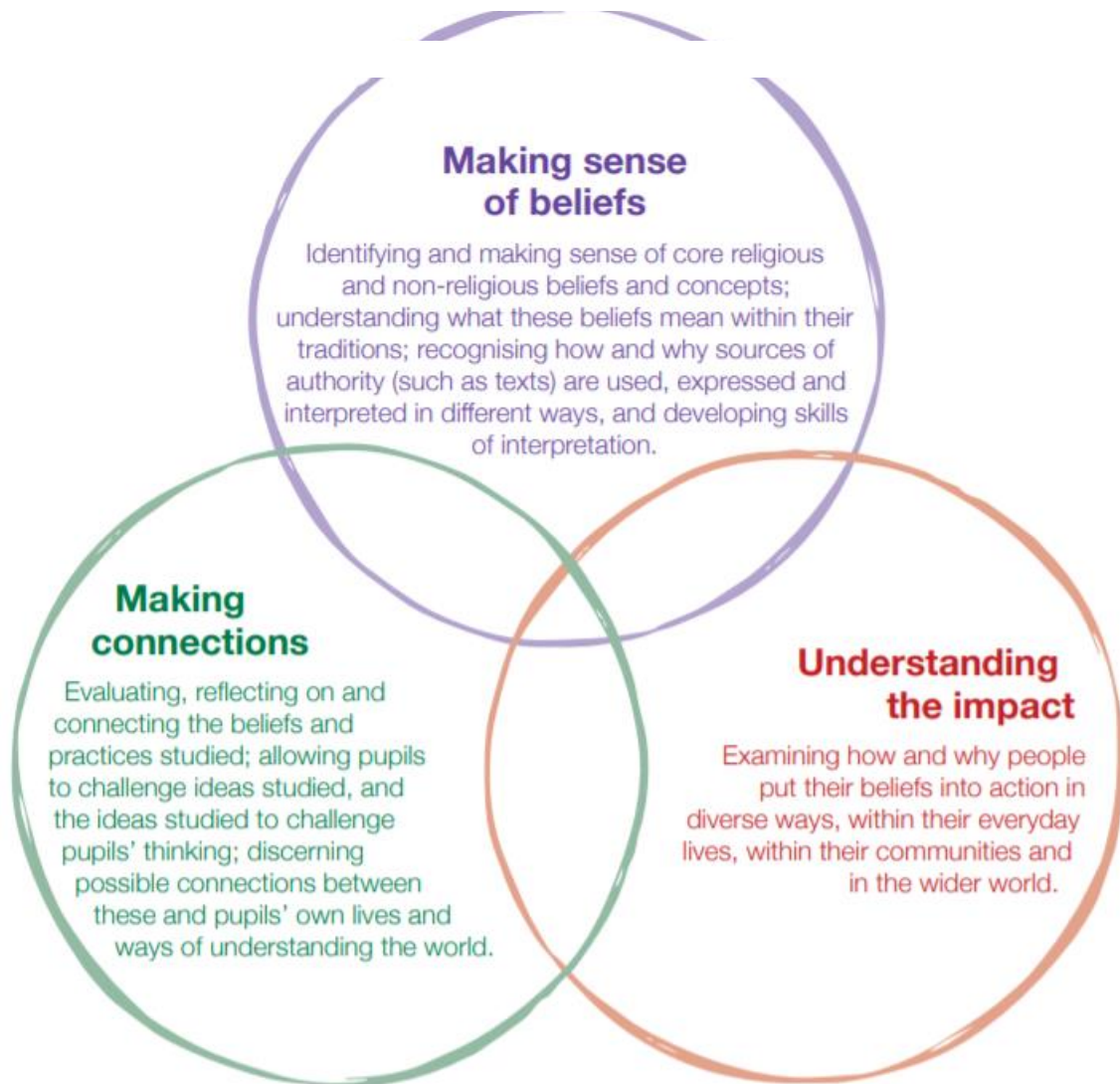
This Principal Aim is taken from Shropshire's Agreed Syllabus of 2021. To aid planning, this aim has been broken down into three core elements:

- Making Sense of Beliefs,
- Understanding the Impact, and
- Making Connections.

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These core elements are woven together to provide the breadth and balance required.



By following 'The Shropshire Agreed Syllabus' of 2021, pupils at The Meadows will develop an understanding of the principal religions represented in the UK. We use units of work produced by 'RE Today' to aid our in-depth studies of Islam, Judaism and Hinduism, and we use 'Understanding Christianity' to support us in our teaching of Christianity. Both schemes are built on the concept of a spiral curriculum, whereby the children will revisit and review their understanding of a particular subject, before being introduced to new ideas and content. In the Shropshire syllabus, and in the two schemes of work we use at The Meadows, there is also a strong emphasis on building knowledge, including correct vocabulary and terminology used in describing religious traditions and concepts.