

Beliefs and Values Vision Statement

At Alexandra Park Primary School, we provide our children with a high-quality Beliefs and Values education. Through the teaching of Beliefs and Values, children get to explore the beliefs of different people locally, nationally and globally, and explore what difference this makes to how they live. They discover, explore and consider many different answers to questions about human identity, meaning and value. They learn to weigh up for themselves the value of wisdom from different communities, to disagree respectfully, to be tolerant in their responses to religions and world views, and to respond by expressing insights into their own and others' lives.

Care

Pupils are encouraged to care about the people around them. Throughout Beliefs and Values, there are three core strands running across the curriculum – Believing, Expressing and Living.

Beliefs and Values helps to promote social and ethnic harmony and awareness of British Values. As the children are taught to understand differing beliefs and practices, it will help to promote cohesion and integration.

Aspire

Our Beliefs and Values curriculum enables children to explore multiple religions that are most prominent in the local community through visits to local places of worship and meeting people from different religious and belief communities.

Achieve

Our Beliefs and Values curriculum ensures that children achieve a balance of knowledge and key skills in each unit of study. The scheme of work has been designed so that each year builds upon the previous years, ensuring connections are made throughout the children's learning. Teachers ensure that children are supported through scaffolding and challenge, ensuring that all pupils can achieve in every lesson.

Intent

In Beliefs and Values, pupils learn from religions and world views about different ways of life in local, national and global contexts. They discover, explore and consider many different answers to questions about human identity, meaning and value. They learn to weigh up for themselves the value of wisdom from different communities, to disagree respectfully, to be reasonable in their responses to religions and world views and to respond by expressing insights into their own and others' lives. They think rigorously, creatively, imaginatively and respectfully about their ideas in relation to religions and world views. Living in and growing up in the diverse world of the 21st century will challenge all young people. An understanding of different faiths and beliefs has never seemed more relevant. Our Beliefs and Values curriculum aims to prepare our children for the future by teaching them about a variety of faiths and beliefs, as well as allowing them to consider their own response to big questions of spirituality and identity. It also explores questions of morality, such as discrimination, as well as raising ethical questions.

Implementation

Our Beliefs and Values curriculum is challenging, inspiring and fun. It supports our children to develop their levels of religious literacy and conceptual understanding. It teaches them how to articulate, with confidence, their ideas about religion, beliefs and spirituality. It allows our learners to understand religious and belief systems' commitment to morality and social justice, to responsible stewardship of the environment and to deepening the experience of being human. Our curriculum enables pupils to explore Judaism, Islam and Hinduism, alongside Christianity, as well as exploring secular world views. The school's curriculum design reflects our core values of Care, Aspire and Achieve. Our Beliefs and Values curriculum ensures that we cover these core values as well as the knowledge set out in the local authority's SACRE programme of study. Our Beliefs and Values units demonstrate seven steps of effective learning: Movement, Games, Creativity, Challenge, Ownership, Meaning and Celebration. Staff work collaboratively with the subject leader to plan exciting units of work. The units of work are separated into three core strands: Believing, Expressing and Living. These ensure that children learn about both the theology underpinning religious beliefs and also the practical outworkings of this theology. The units are interwoven with key questions that focus the children's learning and allow them to articulate their understanding using key vocabulary. Children have the opportunity to present their learning in a variety of ways, such as debates, drama and presentations, highlighted especially in our end-of-unit consolidation of learning activities (COLAs).

Impact

Evidence through pupil voice and outcomes in books will show that children can articulate and demonstrate their knowledge of different ways of life and views on faiths and beliefs. Children will be able to make connections between different religions and notice the core themes running through the different communities. Children will be able to reflect upon their own views as well as the views of others, and can disagree with respectfully.

