



## Intent

At Essex, we deliver a curriculum that celebrates our diverse and rich community, RE is inclusive, develops self-confidence and identifies that all our pupils are unique and therefore we should all be tolerant of each other's beliefs. We encourage pupils to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths
- Be culturally aware of the world around them
- Investigate and reflect on some of the fundamental questions asked by people
- Explore, the meaning of life and the existence of a divine spirit
- Reflect on what it means to have faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding
- Have respect and tolerance for other faiths, irrespective of their beliefs
- Develop a positive self image and foster a code of moral behaviour required for living in a harmonious community

## Implementation

Our Religious Education curriculum is high quality and is planned to demonstrate diversity and respect. The syllabus is implemented in school through themed assemblies and during lessons. Work in Religious Education builds on the pupils' own experiences and uses contemporary issues to stimulate discussion, particularly in upper key stage 2. Pupils also look at and handle religious artefacts. Pupils learn about each of the six major world religions - Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Christianity, Judaism and Buddhism during each academic year, building on their learning to deepen understanding. Reflection on learning is a key aspect to each RE lesson and we build in spirituality through exploring the concept of 'self and others', which encourages pupils to think more deeply.

## Impact

Pupil voice, and monitoring of their lessons and achievements, shows pupils at Essex feel they are valued as individuals and that their beliefs are valued and celebrated. Pupils feel safe to learn new things, and share their beliefs with others, in an accepting environment. At the end of year 6, Essex pupils leave school with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners well prepared for the next stage in their education.

## Enrichment

Essex Primary school is at the heart of a rich and diverse community. We make the most of the wide-ranging opportunities to visit a myriad of local places of worship to enhance learning. The practices we have embedded in our curriculum and the teaching of RE, allows our pupils to gain a clearer understanding of different faiths and religions that are not only celebrated in our community, but around the world. Pupils have opportunities to use artefacts from different faiths to help introduce our younger children to diverse religious beliefs.