



RE in EYFS

At Four Oaks, the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum supports children's understanding of Religious Education through the planning and teaching of 'Understanding the World'. Children are encouraged to use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation of, and wonder at, the world in which they live. Exploring others' views, cultures and beliefs supports children in developing their views and beliefs about themselves, their family and community. In finding out about others, young children are encouraged to reflect on belief, culture and practice and explore faith through observing festivals and celebrations, sharing stories, visuals, toys and puppets, handling real artefacts, roleplay, books and discussion. This includes learning about key celebrations and festivals which our children may celebrate at home, for example:

- Exploring how different cultures celebrate Christmas.
- Discussing how Hindus celebrate Diwali and learning about key objects which are used during the celebration.
- The children explore Chinese New Year celebrations
- The children learn about Easter and understand why Christians celebrate this.
- Discuss the differences between key festivals.
- The children have been taught about other key celebrations such as birthdays through our Narrative Immersion text. They discuss how they celebrate birthdays and compared their celebrations with different cultures in the world.

Children begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects and by visiting places of worship. They listen to and talk about stories. They are introduced to religious words where appropriate and use their senses when exploring religions and beliefs, practices and forms of expression. They reflect on their own feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.

Religious Education can make an active contribution to all areas but has a particularly important contribution in:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children use some stories from religious traditions as a stimulus to reflect on their own feelings and experiences and explore them in various ways.

Using a story as a stimulus, children reflect on the words and actions of characters and decide what they would have done in a similar situation. They learn about the story and its meanings through activity and play.

Children think about issues of right and wrong and how humans help one another.

Communication and Language

Children have opportunities to respond creatively, imaginatively and meaningfully to memorable experiences.

Using a religious celebration as a stimulus, children talk about special events associated with the celebration.

Through artefacts, stories and music, children learn about important religious celebrations.

Understanding of the World

Children ask and answer questions about religion and culture, as they occur naturally within their everyday experiences and recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.

Children understand that some places are special to member of their community.

They listen to and respond to a wide range of religious and ethnic groups

Applying the knowledge in KS1 and KS2

As the children move into Year 1 and beyond, they study RE themes. The starting point of their lessons is to ascertain what they already know and have experienced. Children are encouraged to refer to their prior experiences and learning from Reception and apply it to their new studies.