

Religious Education at Icen Primary Academy



Religious education is not about telling children what to think, but teaching them how to think.



Intent

At Icen Primary Academy, we believe that Religious Education (RE) plays a vital role in helping children understand themselves, others, and the diverse world in which they live. Our RE curriculum is designed to foster respect, curiosity, and open-mindedness, enabling pupils to explore different faiths, beliefs, and worldviews.

Through RE, children learn to ask thoughtful questions, reflect on their own values, and develop empathy for people whose experiences and perspectives may differ from their own. We aim to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain by promoting tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of diversity.

We use of **Jigsaw**, which supports pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development. Together, RE and Jigsaw help children to grow into respectful, reflective, and responsible citizens.

Implementation

Lessons are enquiry-based, encouraging children to investigate key questions such as *"What does it mean to belong?"* or *"How do different faiths celebrate?"*

Pupils explore beliefs and practices through stories, artefacts, visits, and discussions, making meaningful links to their own lives and experiences.

Cross-curricular links are made where appropriate, for example through art, drama, or writing, to deepen understanding and engagement.

The **Jigsaw programme** complements RE by supporting children's personal development, emotional literacy, and reflection, ensuring that learning about religion and belief is rooted in respect and empathy.

Impact

By the end of their time at Icen, pupils will:

- Have a secure understanding of key beliefs, practices, and traditions across a range of religions and worldviews.
- Be able to reflect on and articulate their own ideas and values with confidence.

- Show respect and empathy towards others, recognising the importance of diversity in shaping communities.
- Be prepared to contribute positively to life in modern Britain and the wider world.

Assessment is ongoing and responsive, with teachers using questioning, discussion, and reflection tasks to monitor understanding and adapt teaching.

Marking and Feedback

Work is marked according to the school marking policy by using

- Peer and self-assessment
- Oral feedback
- Written feedback

Inclusion

At Icen Primary Academy, we are committed to ensuring that every child can thrive. We adapt teaching and learning to meet the diverse needs of all learners, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Our inclusive approach ensures that children receive the support and resources they need to succeed in every aspect of their education.

Our staff work closely with families, external agencies, and specialists to ensure that provision is continually reviewed and refined. We believe that with the right support, every child can achieve their full potential.

Our SEND Information Report is available on our website. Please ask if you would like us to print a copy out.

EYFS

In the Early Years, children begin to explore ideas of belonging, special times, and celebrations. They learn through stories, role-play, and discussion, laying the foundations for respectful curiosity about different beliefs and traditions. This is supported by the **Understanding the World** strand of Development Matters and enriched by Jigsaw's focus on personal and social development.

Link to the National Curriculum

Religious education in English schools: non-statutory guidance 2010

If you require further information, please do email icenprimary@attrust.org.uk