

## Religious Education at Menston Primary School

Menston Primary has a statutory obligation to teach Religious Education (RE). The school is committed to developing its children's knowledge and understanding of religions and beliefs through the teaching of RE and to promoting their spiritual, cultural and moral development. From exploring different rituals and forms of worship to discussing key ethical questions about right and wrong, RE offers a unique opportunity to shape a child's understanding of the world, develop their core values, ideas and identities, consider important aspects of diversity within society and learn cultural references that will inform them throughout their lives.

Children at Menston follow the *Bradford Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2016-20* which allows children to "to explore the commonalities and differences between and within faiths and other world views as well as developing an understanding of their own beliefs and those of others". Christianity and Islam are the core religions studied but over their time at Menston children also learn about Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism.

Using *Development Matters* as its queue, children in Foundation encounter RE through a range of contexts including role play. RE relates particularly to the Understanding the World Early Learning Goal and children are encouraged to look at similarities and differences between people and communities, and learn about festivals, special people, books, times, places and objects.

RE learning at Menston in KS1 and KS2 is enquiry-based and follows the Focus RE Learning Challenge Curriculum. Teaching is structured around a series of key questions based on half termly or termly topics. Work is organised so that it is accessible to all and each child is challenged at an appropriate level. There is planned skills progression year-on-year.

RE is taught through a variety of strategies. Visits to sacred buildings, guest speakers and assemblies based on Christian stories from an Open the Book team are just some of the ways in which children's learning of RE at Menston is enhanced. Cross-curricular links from RE to literacy, art and geography are strong.

RE is provided for all pupils, and is inclusive and broad minded. Parents do have the right to withdraw pupils from RE. Any parent/carer wishing to do this should make an appointment with the Headteacher.

Bradford (2016) *Bradford Agreed Syllabus for RE*

<https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=2039>

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Learning about Islam and Ramadan from a visitor



Foundation children retelling the Nativity story



A Harvest visit to Church by Y1



A Diva Lamp in Y2



Y5 visit to Whitby Abbey