



# Reach for the stars.

## HILL VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

### PRINCIPLE

Hill View teaches RE to all pupils in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Dorset agreed syllabuses i.e. that reflects that the religious traditions in Great Britain are, in the main, Christian whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions.

In addition, Hill View firmly believes that all children deserve time and opportunity to explore their own spirituality and to develop their own understanding of how faith and religion shape the lives of many individuals and societies. The pupils of Hill View have the opportunity to engage in the questioning and exploration of their own and others' beliefs, ethics, religions and worldviews.

The teaching of R.E. follows the Discovery Scheme of Work, promoting a four-step enquiry approach:

- **ENGAGEMENT** What is my own experience in my own world that might help me relate to the religion/ worldview in this enquiry?
- **INVESTIGATION** Can I find out the information I need to enable me to answer the key question/s of this enquiry?
- **EVALUATION** Can I critically reflect on the key question/s and possible answers and substantiate with evidence from the knowledge I gained in step 2?
- **EXPRESSION** Does what I've learnt in this enquiry change, strengthen or make a difference to my original starting point in step 1?

This enquiry approach enables the acquisition of knowledge and encourages the progression of pupils' critical thinking skills, as well as their spiritual and moral development, and thereby promotes respect for themselves and others, as well as the love of learning. Christianity is taught in both Key Stages, along with two other principle religions (Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism or Sikhism) in each Key Stage. R.E. is taught as separate lessons or through projects. Visits and visitors are organised to support children's understanding where possible.

Hill View is an inclusive community but recognises that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Religious Education or Collective Worship on the grounds of conscience. Parents wishing to exercise that right are asked to write to the head teacher who will then invite the parents into school to discuss their concerns, clarify the nature of the R.E. and worship provided by the school and set out the options for parents as set out in education law.

However, the right of withdrawal does not extend to other areas of the curriculum, when as may happen on occasion, spontaneous questions on religious matters are raised by pupils or when issues related to religion occur in other subjects.

Where a pupil is withdrawn from RE or collective worship, they will be supervised by an appropriate member of staff whilst doing work set by their parents which seeks to further their knowledge and understanding of their parents' beliefs and values.

**Responsible:** RE Leader  
**Date Reviewed:** December 2017

**Changed:** Yes/No YES  
**Date for policy review:** December 2020