

How is RE is taught in Reception?

RE falls mainly under the strand 'Understanding the World', within 'People, Cultures and Communities' and 'Past and Present'. Understanding the World is one of the four specific areas of learning in the EYFS framework.

However, it also touches on many elements within Personal Social and Emotional Development; 'Managing Self', 'Building Relationships' and 'Self-Regulation'. Personal, Social and Emotional Development is one of the three Prime areas.

Prime and specific areas of learning...

The four specific areas are Literacy (L), Mathematics (M), Understanding the World (UW) and Expressive Arts and Design (EAD).

The three prime areas are Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Physical Development (PD) AND Communication and Language (CL).

The three prime areas are the focus for practitioners working with children in Reception as these form the basis for successful learning and progress in the four specific areas.

RE therefore plays a massive part in teaching our children in Early Years essential skills that will enable them to feel secure in themselves, as part of the school family and as part of the wider community. We hope that inevitably this will enable our children to become effective learners and to make good life choices.

Early Learning Goals for RE (where we expect children to be by the end of Reception).

Early Learning Goal for People, Culture and Communities:

- *‘Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps’.*

Early Learning Goal for Understanding the World – Past and Present:

- *‘Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling’.*

Early Learning Goal for Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- *Self-Regulation – ‘Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly’.*
- *Managing Self – ‘Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge; Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly’.*
- *Building Relationships – ‘Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers. Show sensitivity to their own and to others’ needs’.*

In order for children to achieve these Early Learning Goals children are provided with plenty of opportunities to learn about each other’s lives, the Christian Values of our school and other cultural beliefs and celebrations. This includes...

- ✚ Daily worship sessions (whole school assembly, KS1 assembly, Mr Coles Reception assembly and two class assemblies per week)
- ✚ Daily prayers, led by our special people of the week.
- ✚ Show and Tell Time (sharing photos and discussing special events at home)
- ✚ Discussions during Team Learning (e.g. in Communication and Language groups).
- ✚ Topic based Busy Learning activities (our continuous provision).
- ✚ Dedicated Refection area: Sam and Sally, our persona dolls, teach us about being a Christian and about other religious and cultural beliefs.
- ✚ Detailed RE planning, linked to our weekly topics and special events, for example... St Francis Day, Diwali, Christmas, Easter, Weddings, Birthdays, Chinese New Year etc...