

*"At its best, RE (Religious Education) is intellectually challenging and personally enriching. It helps young people develop beliefs and values, and promotes the virtues of respect and empathy, which are important in our diverse society. It fosters civilised debate and reasoned argument and helps pupils to understand the place of religion and belief in the modern world."* - **Religious education: realising the potential (page 4) Ofsted HM Government UK**

We believe that it is important for all our pupils to learn from and about religion, so that they can better understand the world around them. Religious Education plays a significant role in the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths (and no faith) and beliefs. It encourages pupils to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection. Our RE learning is strongly rooted in our school values and British values.



## Our Key Concepts for teaching and learning Religious Education

- **Believing:** religious beliefs, sources, teachings, questions about meaning, purpose and truth
- **Expressing:** religious and spiritual forms of expression; questions about identity and diversity
- **Living:** religious practices and ways of living; questions and values and commitments
- **Enrichment and building cultural capital through RE**

We use the agreed **Tower Hamlets Religious Education syllabus** as the basis for our RE curriculum to ensure children will:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of the world's major religions.
- Deepen their understanding and awareness of the beliefs, values and traditions of other individuals, societies, communities and cultures.
- Gain an understanding of the ways in which beliefs influence people in their behaviour, practices and outlook.
- Develop a positive attitude towards other people who hold religious beliefs different from their own.
- Be able to ask questions about the world and to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences.
- Develop a genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and the people who live here.

## What makes RE special at Woolmore?

### 1. We celebrate a range of festivals together

We learn about different beliefs and cultures. As part of our RE curriculum, across the school we spend time learning about how different religions celebrate certain festivals. A selection of comments or pieces of work are placed in our RE Floor books to provide a record throughout the year of the topics and festivals covered. Year groups will often share their learning with the whole school during special assemblies which provide all children with an insight into why and how different festivals are celebrated. We recognise and celebrate a range of festivals with our families – follow us on twitter @WoolmoreTweets #together #pride #respect



### 2. RE is linked to our school values and rules

During RE lessons children are encouraged to reflect on why we learn about religion and how this is linked to our school values and rules. Children are also encouraged to reflect on the British values of tolerance and respect. This gives us a positive foundation to base RE learning on and helps children understand how to respectfully contribute and meaningfully learn in lessons.

## Let's remember:

Why do we learn about religion?

How does it link with our Woolmore values?

