

Sudbourne Primary School

Headteacher: Richard Blackmore
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27th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of Years 3 and 4,

Religious Education (RE) in 2020-2021

As part of the National Curriculum we teach our children a range of subjects including Religious Education. This term in phase 2, we will be learning about **Judaism**. At Sudbourne Primary School, we strongly believe that RE is an important curriculum subject for a number of reasons:

Firstly, it is important in its own right as it makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils.

Secondly, RE also contributes to pupils' personal development and well-being and to community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society such as our school community.

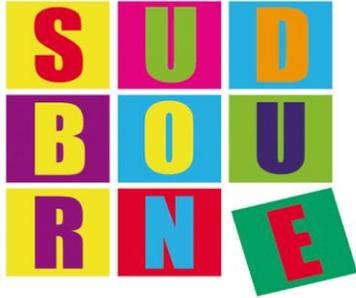
RE teaches pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice – something that is increasingly important in our everyday lives nowadays.

Some parents are concerned about RE lessons – they worry that their child may be being encouraged to take up another faith, or question their own faith. We want to assure you, in the strongest possible terms that RE at Sudbourne is **not** about indoctrination in another faith – we simply teach children *about* different religions, faiths, and belief sets. In no way, do we *instruct* them about any specific religion.

And for all the reasons given above we strongly believe, especially in this day and age of increasing intolerance to those of different backgrounds, faiths, ethnicities, that we teach our children tolerance of others, understanding of difference, and respect. R.E. is a very powerful way of achieving all these important aims.

And so, whilst it is a parent's right to withdraw their child from Religious Education at school, we strongly encourage you to discuss this with us. Please be aware that according to current legislation, for those pupils who are withdrawn from RE, we, the school, have a duty to supervise them, not to provide additional teaching.





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As part of our RE teaching the children will have the opportunity to learn about faiths of the world, their similarities with each other, and their individual uniqueness will be supported with opportunities for our children to visit different places of worship and to meet through special assemblies with adults from different faiths.

If you wish your child to be withdrawn from any aspect of this year's RE curriculum, please do contact the school in writing.

Yours sincerely

Richard Blackmore
Headteacher

