

# Religious & Moral Education

*Religious and moral education includes learning about Christianity, Islam and other world religions, and supports the development of beliefs and values.*

## **SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL, MORAL AND CULTURAL VALUES**

Our school uses the National and Glasgow City Council Guidelines, and follows Council Policy relating to Religious Education and Religious Observance. Religious and Moral Education deals with the development of the person in relation to self-awareness, relationships with others, and the realm of beliefs, values and practices which go to make up a religious outlook on life. Discussion of religious and moral issues should be open and pupils should be encouraged to express their own views and feelings and to listen with respect to the views and feelings of others. In Religious Education pupils consider the essential elements of religion in a study of Christianity and other 2 world faiths – Islam and Judaism.

Through assemblies other significant religious festivals are shared and discussed with pupils.

Parents who do not wish their children to participate in religious services have the right to have their children withdrawn during these occasions. Parents wishing to exercise this right of withdrawal should contact the Head Teacher so that suitable arrangements can be made.

These Policies reflect national advice set out in SOEID Circular 6/9, the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and SEED Circular 1/2005 and additional advice received from the Scottish Government on RME/RERC and RO in February 2011.

In addition, parents and carers from religions other than Christianity may request that their children may be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Only written requests detailing the proposed arrangements will be considered. Appropriate requests will be granted on up to 3 occasions in any 1 school session.

## **RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE**

At Sandwood Primary we follow Glasgow City Council's Policy on Religious Observance. This policy aims to ensure that Religious Observance is relevant and appropriate to children's experiences. It seeks to align with the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000, the National Priorities for Education (especially Citizenship and Values) and Curriculum for Excellence based on the shared values and an aspiration that all children should be successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

Our school is fortunate to have a close link with the local church. The minister assists with the Christianity element of Religious and Moral Education and provides opportunities for religious observance. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from religious observance and should inform the school in writing.

Our School Chaplain is the Reverend Lyn Peden (St Andrew's, Penilee).