

## **Context**

Oakfield Lodge School is a Pupil Referral Unit and as such is not obliged to follow the National Curriculum

Although not taught as a stand alone subject, elements of RE are delivered discretely in lessons such as Humanities, Personal Development and PSHE as well as drop down days. These include the following:

- How the war effects different groups
- Where we live
- Charity days
- Trips to local churches and places of worship

## **Aims and purpose of RE**

### **Purpose**

At Oakfield Lodge, RE enables pupils to engage critically with significant ethical, philosophical and social issues in order to understand the world we live in more fully.

Pupils learn about religious beliefs and practices, including non-religious worldviews. They do this for the development of their knowledge and understanding of our diverse society. At Oakfield Lodge School pupils are encouraged to develop their own considered opinion, to articulate their views, and engage in productive dialogue and debate with others.

### **Aims**

In order to fulfil this purpose, Oakfield Lodge School are aims to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of religious traditions and non-religious worldviews. Pupils will learn how religious identity influences people's lives and will be encouraged to express their own considered opinions about the nature and value of religion on people and the planet. Pupils will develop the skills of listening, speaking and discussing, as well as those of enquiry, analysis and evaluation.

### **Legal requirements**

The National Curriculum states that: Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based, and which:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils, and
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- All state schools must teach religious education
- All schools must publish their curriculum by subject and academic year online

### **Right of withdrawal**

Parents (or pupils who are over 18) have the right to withdraw their children either partly or wholly from RE. In addition, teachers have the right not to teach the subject. Our approach to RE, however, has been constructed in the hope that parents and teachers will rarely, if ever, wish to exercise their right of withdrawal. As stated in law, those parents who wish to withdraw their child from RE lessons should inform the school in writing at their earliest convenience.