

Enrichment Visit: Ofsted Framework Mapping Fox Class – Cross-Cultural and Religious Education

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum is designed to ensure pupils develop respectful understanding of different religions, cultures and life experiences, preparing them for life in modern Britain. We aim to build pupils' religious literacy, empathy, and ability to engage thoughtfully with beliefs that may be different from their own. Enrichment opportunities are planned to provide authentic first-hand experiences that deepen learning beyond textbooks and enable pupils to meet people from a range of backgrounds.

This visitor session directly supported our intent by:

- Promoting understanding of Islam and Ramadan through lived experience
- Supporting SMSC development by encouraging reflection, respect and curiosity
- Reinforcing knowledge of traditions and festivals, enabling meaningful comparison
- Modelling that faith is personal, chosen and expressed in individual ways

Implementation

As part of our planned RE and PSHE enrichment programme, Fox Class welcomed Ms Begum, a Muslim visitor training to become a teacher to spend time working with them. The session was carefully structured to complement prior learning about religious festivals and beliefs.

During the visit:

- Ms Begum explained the significance of Ramadan, including fasting, prayer, reflection and charity
- She shared her experiences of growing up as a Muslim, offering insight into lived faith
- She emphasised that faith involves individual choices, helping pupils understand diversity within religions
- She spoke about her teacher training journey, linking learning to aspirations and future careers

The session encouraged open discussion and questioning. Pupils were supported to listen respectfully, ask thoughtful questions and apply existing knowledge. Staff facilitated connections to previous learning about Christian festivals and school traditions, ensuring knowledge was revisited, compared and deepened.

Impact

The impact of this enrichment visit was clearly evident in pupils' engagement, responses and understanding.

Pupils:

- Asked high-quality, respectful questions, demonstrating curiosity and confidence
- Successfully applied prior learning about festivals and traditions when making comparisons
- Developed a clearer understanding that beliefs are lived differently by individuals
- Demonstrated respect and empathy towards different cultures and faiths
- Showed increased awareness of career pathways, including teaching as a vocation

The session strengthened pupils' ability to talk knowledgeably about different religions and cultures and contributed positively to their SMSC development. It supported our wider curriculum aim of developing pupils who are open-minded, reflective and respectful members of society.

British Values Alignment

This enrichment activity directly supported the promotion of British Values:

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

- Pupils listened attentively and engaged respectfully with a visitor of a different faith
- Children learned about Islamic beliefs through lived experience rather than stereotypes
- Discussion reinforced that differences are to be valued and respected

Democracy

- Pupils were encouraged to ask questions and share ideas
- Dialogue was valued, and all questions were responded to thoughtfully

Individual Liberty

- Ms Begum's explanation of her personal faith choices reinforced that individuals are free to make and express beliefs
- Pupils understood that faith is personal and should be respected

Rule of Law

- While not the main focus, discussions around religious observance included understanding that people practise faith within the wider laws and expectations of society

