Within Handale Primary School, significant emphasis is put into the curriculum provision for Religious Education and the teaching of and understanding of the importance of British Values.

The RE Curriculum Overview for Handale is comprised with reference to the Redcar and Cleveland Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education using their concepts as guidance for the areas covered. The 4 concepts are: Belief, Teachings/Authority, Worship and Impact of Faith. These concepts are used in conjunction with the Challenge Curriculum to define focus and place emphasis on the ‘Requirements from the Curriculum Framework’. The requirements are to Know and Understand, Express and Communicate and Gain and Deploy Skills.

Within ‘Know and Understand’ in Key Stage 1 and 2, pupils should develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews recognising their local, national and global contexts. They should use basic subject specific vocabulary. Within ‘Express and Communicate’ and ‘Gain and Deploy Skills’, they should raise questions and begin to express their own views in response to the material they learn about and respond to questions about their ideas.

The RE Curriculum Overview details the focus within each term for each year group and ensures that alongside the yearly assessment sheets, that a broad RE curriculum is being taught with an emphasis on the range of religions and worldviews. Ensuring within this that the thoughts and opinions of the children are considered alongside raising their ability to respond to questions with an RE focus.

During assemblies, opportunities to praise through song are regularly taken within key stage and whole school gatherings. RE themed whole school assemblies are also timetabled into the school calendar covering a broad range of religions and worldviews. Opportunities to invite guests of faith to deliver lessons and assemblies are being opportuned and developed.

High emphasis of RE within Handale is detailed in the School Improvement Plan. The intended outcomes for this are for: Children to develop their respect and sensitivity for others, in particular for those with faiths and beliefs different to their own; Children to develop a knowledge of Christianity as the main religion in Great Britain whilst also considering the teachings and practices of other principal religions and worldviews in Great Britain including: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Judaism and Humanism; To develop pupil’s dialogue with regards these religions and worldviews; To develop the pupil’s dialogue when they discuss their personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences. They should do this clearly and coherently and with confidence, ensuring that they are respecting the rights of others to have differing views.

These intended outcomes are to be achieved through: all teachers knowing the RE scheme which will include opportunities to upskill; developing a bank of resources to support the teaching of RE which will include appropriate visitors and places of worship to visit; consideration to assembly themes for the academic year 2020/21; monitoring of the teaching of RE across the school including book scrutiny and pupil voice and the sharing of good practice in curriculum staff meetings.

The assurance of children’s awareness of our core British Values will be through classroom teaching but with a focused emphasis being within whole school and key stage assemblies. Constant reference to these values will remind and embed the children’s awareness. Themed assembles timetabled into the school calendar will cover each of the British Value strands with one assembly covering each strand. This is on-going practice and is a regular feature within the school assembly timetable for Autumn 1.