



Inspire Education Trust

Together we achieve, individually we grow

Religious Festivals Procedure

Policy Date: March 2022

Review Date: March 2024

Document History

Version	Status		Date	Author	Summary Changes
V1			Mar 22	Sarah Ashworth	New Policy

1 Introduction

There are many important religious times during the year for our pupils and we value these festivals.

This procedure will be useful as it helps us to all work together with a common understanding that actively promotes positive attitude towards all aspects of life including religions, cultures, and ethnic backgrounds. Whilst we recognise that fasting is not compulsory before the age of puberty in Islam, we understand that children are often encouraged to fast or indeed wish to fast to prepare them for adulthood. We do not encourage children in KS1 to fast.

2 Aims

- 2.1 To provide a safe environment for children who wish to partake in fasting at school.
- 2.2 To ensure the proper care of children is maintained and keep parents/carers informed if their child is unwell.
- 2.3 To further develop understanding of the different faiths represented in the school population.

3 Implementation

Parents/carers should bring their children to school for registration, if the festival falls on a teaching day.

Fasting:

- 3.1 All parents/carers must inform the School Office by telephone if they wish their child to fast for part or all of the month of Ramadan.
- 3.2 If a child says that they are fasting, but the school has not received a letter from his or her parent/carer this will be dealt with in a respectful way and the child will not be allowed to miss lunch.
- 3.3 Children who are fasting should not be expected to exert themselves physically but will join in with PE.
- 3.4 Children who are fasting will not be allowed to participate in rigorous activities such as running around at lunch time. They will be encouraged to make use of quiet areas on the playground to conserve their energy.
- 3.5 In the rare circumstances of a child becoming distressed or unwell when he or she is fasting, the school will encourage the child to break their fast by eating their emergency snack and having a drink of water unless their parent/carer has let us know in advance that they do not wish this to happen.
- 3.6 If a child has a medical condition that would be complicated by fasting, e.g. diabetes, the child will not be permitted to fast at school.
- 3.7 A child who fasts on some days and not others should be provided with a packed lunch for the days that they are not fasting. If a child is eligible to free school meals the child's parents/carers should liaise with the School Office.
- 3.8 As is the tradition in the school, RE lessons and an assembly will be held during the school year to create an understanding of the Muslim faith and the festival of Eid-ul-Fitr.

4 Health and Safety

- 4.1 Parents/carers MUST inform the school if their child is fasting.
- 4.2 The school will inform parents/carers immediately if their child who is fasting becomes unwell.

5 Inclusion

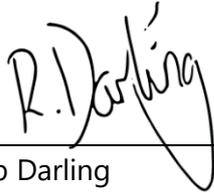
- 5.1 There is mutual co-operation between the parents/carers of children who are fasting and the school.
- 5.2 All children in the school are encouraged to feel positive about their family, their culture, and their faith.

Reviewed by: Sarah Ashworth March 2022

Next Review Date: March 2024

Approved by Head of Education, Primary: 25.04.22

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Darling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end of the word "Darling".

Rob Darling
Head of Education, Primary