



Religious Education Curriculum

Developed in accordance with The Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2023-2028



Purpose of study

“The ability to understand the faith or belief of individuals and communities, and how these may shape their culture and behaviour, is an invaluable asset for children in modern day Britain. Explaining religious and non-religious world views in an academic way allows young people to engage with the complexities of belief, avoid stereotyping and contribute to an informed debate” – Why RE Matters -The RE Council

Aims

- to develop religious literacy defined as is the knowledge of, and ability to understand, religion, beliefs, practices, spiritual insights and secular world views;
- to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions and world views represented locally, nationally, and globally;
- to develop an understanding of the influence of the beliefs, values and traditions on individuals, communities, societies, and cultures;
- to develop attitudes of respect towards other people who hold views and beliefs different from their own;
- to develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious issues, with reference to the principal religions and world views represented locally, nationally, and globally.

Throughout the RE curriculum pupils should be encouraged to explore religions and secular worldviews, engage with their knowledge and reflect on their learning and their lives.



Topics & Big Questions

Explore – Engage - Reflect

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Nursery	Me and My family Special Times (linked to families in the nursery) e.g. Diwali, birthdays, harvest, Christmas, Shrove Tuesday, Easter					
Reception	What is celebration? (Diwali, Harvest, birthdays) What's special about gifts? (linked to Christmas) What stories are special and why? What's so important about new life? (spring, babies, Easter) What foods are special and why? Who is special to you and why?					
Year 1	What does Harvest mean to people of different faiths? Sukkot (Jerusalem, Israel) Harvest Festival, (UK) Lammas (Scotland) Pangol (Tamil, India) Thanksgiving (USA, Canada)	Why is light an important symbol for different religions? (Diwali, Hanukkah, Advent)	How is the birth of a baby celebrated around the world (worldviews)? Visit to the local church.	How is Easter celebrated in the UK? Why is Pesach/Passover important to Jews?	Can you talk about a special building? What is important to Jewish people? (Synagogue, Torah, Shabbat, main festivals)	What do Christian and Jewish stories tell us? (Old & new testament stories)
Year 2	Who made the world? (creation stories & secular/worldviews)	Why is Christmas important to Christians? How is Christmas celebrated by non Christians around the UK?	What happens in a place of worship? (visits to the Mosque and the Church) Do all churches/Mosques look/do the same? <i>Does everybody go to church or the mosque?</i>	How is Easter celebrated around the world? Why is Easter the most important festival for Christians?	Why should we give to charity? Explore bible stories. Explore Jesus as an historical figure.	What is important to us Muslims/Christians/Jews/secular? Are we all the same?



Christianity

Key Vocabulary

Advent, Baptism, Bible, Christ, Christmas, Church, Creation, Disciple, Easter, Faith, God, Harvest, Holy, Hymn, Jesus, Prayer, Priest, Vicar, Worship

Church	Jesus	Bible	Christian Life
<p>Visit a local church and become familiar with the main features of the building: find out what happens there and why (worship, baptisms, weddings) and what children do (choir, Sunday school, holiday clubs etc.)</p> <p>Explore stories connected with the church (e.g. its dedication, stained glass window showing Bible stories).</p> <p>Meet the people who go to the church and who lead church services (especially the vicar or minister) and find out what they do</p>	<p>Know that Jesus was an historical person, a 1st century Jew. Know that he is important to Christians who try to follow his teaching and example.</p> <p>Know that stories about him can be found in the Bible.</p> <p>Know some stories about Jesus and some stories he told. (e.g. baptism of Jesus, children brought to Jesus, calling the disciples, feeding 5000, lost sheep, lost son, Good Samaritan)</p> <p>Know the stories about Jesus connected with Christmas and Easter and the importance of these for Christians.</p>	<p>Know that the Bible is a special book for Christians because of its message about God and Jesus. Know that it comes in two parts (Testaments) and that one part is also special to Jews. Hear some stories from the Bible (Creation, Moses, David and Goliath, Daniel in the lion's den, Jonah)</p> <p>Find out when Christians read the Bible in church and at home. Know that reading the Bible can help Christians think about their behaviour e.g. being thankful, saying sorry, forgiveness</p>	<p>Explore practice you would expect to find in a Christian family (going to church, reading the Bible, prayer, grace before meals)</p> <p>Explore special times for Christians (welcoming new babies – including baptism) Festivals – at the appropriate times, find out how the Christians celebrate the festivals of Harvest, Christmas, and Easter</p> <p>Explore some stories about Christians e.g. historical figures such as Mary Jones or well known current figures from Christians in Sport.</p>



Islam

Key Vocabulary

Allah, Islam, Mosque, Muslim, Prophet, Quran, Mecca.

Mosque	Prophet Mohammed	Holy Qu'ran	Muslim Life
<p>Visit a local mosque and become familiar with the main features of the building: Dome, Minaret, prayer room, washing area for prayers.</p> <p>Find out what happens in the mosque (prayers, lectures, weddings, funerals, reading the Qur'an) and what children do.</p> <p>Explore stories connected with the mosque (name, when was it built) Meet the people who go to the mosque.</p>	<p>Know that Muhammad is a Prophet in Islam. He is the final messenger from Allah. He is important to Muslims who try to follow his teaching and example. Know that the Qur'an was sent to him as a guide for the people.</p> <p>Explore what life was like for Prophet Muhammad as a child (he was an orphan also had a wet nurse as was the custom at the time.)</p> <p>Know some stories about Prophet Muhammad and how the society was before he announced his Prophethood.</p>	<p>Know that the Qur'an is a special book for Muslims.</p> <p>Know that it has 114 chapters. Hear some stories from the Qur'an.</p> <p>A chapter is named after Lady Mary, Qur'an tells Muslims what to do and is therefore a guide for them.</p> <p>Qur'an was sent to Prophet Muhammad as a guide to humanity.</p>	<p>Explore likely feature of a Muslim family (Mosque, Qur'an, daily prayers)</p> <p>Special times for Muslims (e.g. welcoming new babies)</p> <p>Festival – getting ready for Ramadhan and Eid ul Fitr. What can you give up?</p> <p>Explore some stories about Muslims e.g. going for Hajj</p>

It is offensive to show images of the Prophet Mohammed or other prophets of Islam.



Judaism

Key Vocabulary

Synagogue: Ark, Kippah, Tallit, Torah Scrolls, Yad

Shabbat: Kosher Two Candles, Challah, Wine

Jewish Life: Chanukah, Covenant, Dreidel, Maccabees, One God (YHVH), Purim, Rosh Hashanah, Shofar.

Synagogue	Shabbat	Torah & Commandments	Jewish Life
<p>Locate all important features of the Synagogue: Mezuzah, Bimah, Eternal Light and the Ark with the Torah scrolls.</p> <p>Know that a Synagogue is a meeting place and a studying place but also a place where Jewish people celebrate most of their Festivals.</p> <p>Recognise some Jewish symbols: Star of David, Menorah and some ceremonial clothing like Kippah and Tallit</p>	<p>Know that Shabbat is the most important Jewish practice and that it starts on Friday evening and finishes on Saturday evening in memory of God's resting day during the creation of the world.</p> <p>Know that it has been celebrated by the Jewish people for thousands of years in memory of God's resting day during the creation of the world.</p> <p>Know that Jewish people are supposed to rest on Shabbat and that there are many activities that some choose not to perform on that day.</p> <p>Hear some Shabbat blessings (blessing the candles, wine and bread).</p>	<p>Know that Torah is the holiest document for every Jewish person.</p> <p>traditionally regarded as having been given to the Jewish people by their leader and greatest prophet: Moses on Mount Sinai, many centuries ago.</p> <p>Know that it includes the 10 Commandments (also regarded as important by Christians).</p> <p>Know that the stories in the Torah are known to Christians as the Old Testament. Hear some stories from the Torah e.g. Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, Moses receiving the Torah from God</p>	<p>Know some basic information related to Rosh Hashanah (New Year), Yom Kippur.</p> <p>Find out about the Maccabees revolt and the Chanukah miracle when a small jug of oil used to light the Menorah is believed to have lasted for 8 days.</p> <p>Read the story of Hanukkah, listen to some Chanukah songs.</p> <p>Become familiar with the Pesach story, when Moses brought the Jews out of Egypt, out of slavery, how they crossed the Red Sea and received the Torah and the Promised Land.</p>

It is offensive to show images of God.



Humanism

Key Vocabulary

Celebrant, Happy Human, Humanism, Humanist, Science, The Golden Rule.

Knowledge and Belief	Meaning and Purpose	Celebrations and Ceremonies	Humanist Ethics
<p>Q: Why humanists believe human beings are special?</p> <p>What human beings share with other animals and what makes us unique</p> <p>Our ability to question and reason, to empathise with other humans and animals, and our creativity</p> <p>How human beings have improved and can further improve our quality of life and our understanding of the world, including human achievements in science,</p>	<p>Q: How can we be happy?</p> <p>The Happy Human as a symbol of Humanism</p> <p>Happiness as a worthwhile aim; the importance of relationships, exploration, and achieving goals</p> <p>Many ways of finding happiness; there is no one recipe for happiness</p> <p>One way to be happy is to make other people happy (Robert Ingersoll)</p>	<p>Q: What are the special ways Humanists celebrate in their lives?</p> <p>Valuing and celebrating human life by marking key moments in people's lives such as births, weddings and deaths</p> <p>Humanist naming ceremonies: celebrating the arrival of a new baby; promises of love and support from family and friends</p> <p>The importance of human relationships; the need for love and support from other people in our lives;</p>	<p>Q: Why do Humanists think we should be good to each other?</p> <p>Reasons to be good to each other; promoting happiness and avoiding doing harm</p> <p>Thinking about the consequences of our actions</p> <p>The Golden Rule (Treating other people how you wish to be treated)</p> <p>Taking care of other living creatures and the natural world</p>



Assessment

Assessment		
	PSED	Understanding the World
Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make connections between the features of their family and other families. Notice differences and develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See themselves as a valuable individual. Think about the perspectives of others. Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand that some places are special to members of their community. Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
	PT1: Knowledge and understanding of religion and worldviews	PT2: Responding to religion and worldviews
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be familiar with key words and vocabulary related to Christianity and maybe at least one other religion and worldviews Encounter a variety of religious and moral stories from Christianity, one other religion and worldviews Show how individuals and faith communities celebrate life events Begin to name the different beliefs and practices of Christianity, at least one other religion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to talk about different beliefs and practices using the correct vocabulary Begin to suggest meanings behind religious and moral stories Ask or respond to questions about how individuals and faith communities live Express their own ideas about belief and practices creatively
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name the different beliefs and practices of Christianity and at least one other religion and begin to look for similarities between religions. Retell some of the religious and moral stories from the bible and at least one other religious text or special books. Begin to understand what it looks like to be a person of faith. Pupils begin to use key words and vocabulary related to Christianity and at least one other religion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about and find meanings behind different beliefs and practices. Suggest meanings of some religious and moral stories. Ask and respond to questions about what individuals and faith communities do. Express their own ideas, opinions and talk about their work creatively using a range of different medium.