



Religious Education

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) may begin to explore the world of religion in terms of special people, books, times, places and objects and by visiting places of worship. They listen to and talk about stories. They may be introduced to religious words and use their senses in exploring religions and beliefs, practices and forms of expression. They reflect on their own feelings and experiences. They use their imagination and curiosity to develop their appreciation and wonder of the world in which they live.

Throughout the foundation stage, children are introduced to the world of religion through focusing on special people, places, objects, stories, music and celebrations. They learn to recognise that religion is important to some people in their local communities. They reflect on what is important to themselves and others. They engage with RE through a range of resources, especially stories, artefacts, pictures, posters, ICT and simple songs, dance and drama. They reflect on and share their own feelings, and become aware of the feelings of others.

Key Stage 1

Key Stage 1 enables children to explore key concepts, beliefs and teachings, practices and ways of life, and to consider how religion and beliefs are expressed in a variety of ways.

The six key strands in the Agreed Syllabus are;

- Beliefs, teachings and sources
- Identity and belonging
- Practices and ways of life
- Questions of meaning, purpose and truth
- Forms of expression
- Values and commitments

| Strands | Key Stage 1 |
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| Beliefs, teachings, and sources | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk about beliefs and concepts (religious and non-religious). Find out about the Bible and Torah; listen to some stories from them. <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about Moses and Jesus; listen to stories associated with them. <input type="checkbox"/> Recognise the importance of Moses and Jesus for Jews and Christians. |

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| Practices and ways of life | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out how a Christian or Jew practises their faith within their community and in everyday life. <input type="checkbox"/> Why their practices are important to them and what difference does it make to their lives. <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about a ceremony to mark a special occasion in Christianity and/or Judaism. |
| Expressing meaning | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about places of worship that have significance for Christians and Jews and what happens there. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify names of buildings, some key features and reasons for the features. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider colour, sounds, music, food, symbols and movement associated with a festival. |
| Identity, diversity and belonging | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk about times in life when there is cause for a celebration and share in a celebration. <input type="checkbox"/> Share other experiences of living in the world. |
| Meaning, purpose and truth | <input type="checkbox"/> Reflect on meaning of holy books and their stories for believers. Share with others their experiences of living in the world, listen to other people's experiences. Consider beauty, pattern, shape, power, and other creatures in the natural world. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore questions that are important to them including thoughts about what people believe about God and about their own and other people's behaviour. |
| Values and commitments | <input type="checkbox"/> Share their own beliefs about things which are important to them. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify and discuss things which they value and find out what other people, including those with religious commitment, value in life. |

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 children make connections between the Agreed Syllabus six key strands.

| Strands | Key Stage 2 |
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| Beliefs, teachings, sources | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk about concepts and beliefs (religious and non-religious). <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about key concepts and beliefs of Christianity and two other principal religions making comparisons. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore the Bible and two other sacred writings from the two other principal religions. Find out about their origin, some of the stories and other writings they contain, some teachings, the ways in which they are treated by believers and influence their lives. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about the lives and teachings or the significance of key figures in Christianity and two other principal religions. |
| Practices and ways of life | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the main features, pattern and meaning of key acts of worship or meditation within Christianity and two other principal religions. <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the preparations, activities and feelings involved in making a pilgrimage. <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the main features of religious festivals within Christianity and two other principle religions. Include stories underlying them, reasons why they are celebrated, the ways they are celebrated and their significance for believers. |

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| Expressing meaning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the meaning and purpose of the internal and external features of a place of worship in Christianity and two other principal religions. <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate a ceremony in Christianity and two other principal religions which celebrates a landmark in life; find out about the rituals which take place and why. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore the different uses of written and spoken language used in religion. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore how meaning can be communicated in verbal and non-verbal ways such as art, music, drama, film, consider the importance of symbolism. |
| Identity, diversity and belonging | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reflect on the meaning of 'dialogue' and discuss the importance of dialogue between people of different faith or beliefs, as well as between individuals or groups within the same faith/belief. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore things which are important to faith communities, noting similarities and differences. |
| Meaning, purpose and truth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Consider a range of creation stories including the Christian/Jewish account. Consider stewardship and creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify profound questions about life and the world. <input type="checkbox"/> Explore some religious responses to them. |
| Values and commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explore things which they value, explaining why they are important to them and listen to others' experiences. <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate some of the ways in which beliefs and values underpin our society. <input type="checkbox"/> Investigate ways in which Christianity and 2 other principal religions put into practice particular rules for living, reflecting on what commitment means for individuals and communities. <input type="checkbox"/> Study the lives of people from Christianity and 2 other principal religions that exemplify a religious way of life and reflect on how their beliefs affect(ed) their actions. |