Religious Education.

Curriculum Plan



AIMS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education aims to ensure that pupils: develop deepening **knowledge and understanding** about a range of religious and non-religious worldviews so that they can:

- describe and explain beliefs and theological concepts
- describe and explain some sources of authority and teachings within and across religious and non-religious traditions
- describe and explain ways in which beliefs are expressed
- know and understand the significance and impact of beliefs and practices on individuals, communities and societies
- connect these together into a coherent framework of beliefs and practices

	Year 1.	
Christianity Buddhism		
Autumn 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.	
	Note: Whole school approach to Christmas/Easter	
	How and why is Christmas celebrated by Christians?	
	How and why is Easter celebrated by Christians?	
	Topic: Christianity	
	What can we learn about Christianity from visiting a church?	
	What do Christians believe about God?	
	Belief:	
	 God as One, creator, loving, caring, having authority. Descriptions of God as Father, Loving Parent, King Authority: 	
	 The Bible as the holy book of Christians which tells them about God. 	
	 Introduction to a local church leader e.g. priest/minister/vicar. Expressions of belief: 	
	 The church building as a place for worship, community and belonging, - introduction to some features of churches (depending on the tradition visited) e.g. cross, pulpit, lectern, altar, candles, icons, font, statues. 	

	Impact of belief: How Christians care for God's creation (link to Harvest and God as Creator).
	Church visit.
	Belief
Autumn 2.	Authority
	Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Christianity What do Christians believe about God? (cont.)
	Why are gifts given at Christmas?
	Belief:
	• Introduction to the special nature of Jesus shown through his special birth [Incarnation].
	Authority:
	• Jesus as important as shown through his birth, death and resurrection - Christmas and Easter. [Incarnation and Salvation]
	Expressions of belief:
	How Christians celebrate Christmas, Easter, Harvest.
	Impact of belief:
	• Christian values and ways of living based on the teaching of Jesus.
Spring 1.	Belief
	Authority
	Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Christianity.
	Why is Jesus special to Christians?

	Belief:
	 Introduction to the special nature of Jesus shown through his special birth [Incarnation], life and ministry, death and resurrection [Salvation]
	Authority:
	 Stories about the life and ministry of Jesus - as healer, miracle worker, teacher (e.g. through parables). Expressions of belief:
	 Sunday worship in church - words and actions, prayers, reading from the Bible, sermon, hymns, music.
	Impact of belief:
	Christians (as individuals and church communities) show love, care and forgiveness, how they help others and follow the example of Jesus.
Spring 2.	
	Belief.
	Authority.
	Expression of belief.
	Impact of belief.
	Topic : Christianity.
	What is the Easter story?
	Belief:
	 Jesus' death and resurrection [Salvation].
	Authority:
	 Jesus as important as shown through his birth, death and resurrection - Christmas and Easter. [Incarnation and Salvation]
	Expression of belief:
	 How Christians celebrate Christmas, Easter, Harvest.
	Impact of belief:
	 How Christians (as individuals and church communities) show love, care and forgiveness, how they help others and follow the example of Jesus.
	• Now Christians (as individuals and church communities) show love, care and forgiveness, now they help others and follow the example of sesus.
Summer 1.	Belief
	Authority
	Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Buddhism.
	What can we find out about Buddha?
	NB There are several names for the historical Buddha on whose teaching Buddhism is founded e.g. Gotama/Gautama Buddha (also known as Siddhartha Gautama Buddha
	in Sanskrit or Siddhartha Gotama in Pali), Shakyamuni Buddha or simply the Buddha.
	Baliaf
	Belief:
	 Belief in Buddha as an enlightened teacher (not a God).

	 Authority: Example of the historical Buddha's life – his birth, growing up as Prince Siddhartha, giving up palace life to search for truth and an answer to suffering; symbol of the Bodhi tree. Expressions of Belief: Worship in the home: Buddhist home shrine – statue of Buddha (rupa) or mandala, incense, candles, water, food, bell – engaging all the senses. Impact of Belief: How ordinary people who are Buddhists behave: demonstrating compassion, generosity, honesty, patience.
Summer 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief. Topic: Buddhism. What can we find out about Buddha? Belief: • Importance of the natural world. Authority: • Introduction to Buddhist teaching – compassion, respect for living things, no stealing or telling lies. Expressions of Belief: • Symbols and aids to worship, e.g. prayer beads, prayer wheels and flags, lotus flower. Impact of Belief: • Belonging and commitment demonstrated in ordained communities through special clothing, shaven head, alms bowl.

	Year 2.	
	Christianity Buddhism	
Autumn 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.	
	Note: Whole school approach to Christmas/Easter	
	How and why is Christmas celebrated by Christians?	
	How and why is Easter celebrated by Christians?	
	Topic: Christianity.	

	Why is the Bible special to Christians?
	What can we learn from the story of St Cuthbert?
	 Belief: God as Creator and responsible for Creation as shown in Genesis 1 and 2, human responsibility to care for God's Creation [Creation]
	 Authority: How the Bible is treated with respect e.g. read from the lectern in some churches, special Bibles.
	• Some stories from the Bible - Old and New Testament.
	 Expressions of Belief: Sunday worship in church - words and actions, prayers, reading from the Bible, sermon, hymns, music, Eucharist (in some traditions), role of the vicar. How religious identity and belonging are expressed through baptism, services of dedication (symbols, words, actions, vows and promises). Introduction to Newcastle/Durham Cathedral as a place of worship.
	 Impact of Belief: How the Bible has an impact on the lives of individuals. Stories about St Cuthbert – how his Christian faith affected his values, practices and actions, how his life has had an impact on others then and now (link to a local centre of worship).
	Cathedral visit.
Autumn 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Christianity.
	What can we learn from the story of St Cuthbert?(cont.)
	How and why is light important at Christmas?
	 Belief: Jesus shown through his special birth. Jesus as the Son of God [Incarnation].
	Authority:
	 Jesus as important as shown through his birth, death and resurrection - Christmas and Easter. [Incarnation and Salvation] Stories about the life and ministry of Jesus - as healer, miracle worker, teacher (e.g. through parables), one who helped and cared for others. Expressions of Belief:

	How Christians calebrate Christman Easter Harveet
	How Christians celebrate Christmas, Easter, Harvest.
	Impact of Belief:
	 Christian values and ways of living based on the teaching of Jesus, "love God and love your neighbour as yourself" e.g. how Christians (as individuals and church communities) show love, care and forgiveness, how they help others and follow the example of Jesus.
Spring 1.	Belief
	Authority Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Christianity.
	What does it mean to belong to Christianity?
	Belief:
	Creation, Incarnation, Salvation.
	 The special nature of Jesus, life and ministry. Jesus as the son of God.
	• Jesus as the soli of Gou.
	Authority:
	Bible tells them about God.
	Key teaching of Jesus.
	 Faith leader- introduction to a local church leader- priest, vicaretc. Expressions of Belief:
	 The church as a place of worship, community and belonging.
	• Sunday worship in church.
	 Identity and belonging expressed through symbols, vows, actions and promises.
	Impact of Belief:
	 Christian values, as individuals and church communities. Heartha Bitle has bashed as import on the lines of individuals
	 How the Bible has had an impact on the lives of individuals.
Spring 2.	Belief.
	Authority.
	Expression of Belief.
	Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Christianity.
	v do Christians celebrate Easter?
	ter story.
	Belief:

	 Jesus shown through his death and resurrection (salvation). Authority:
	 Stories about the life and ministry of Jesus. Key teachings of Jesus. Expressions of Belief:
	 How Christians celebrate Easter. How religious identity and belonging are expressed. Impact of Belief: How Christians follow the example of Jesus.
Summer 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	Topic: Buddhism.
	How do Buddhists show their beliefs?
	 elief in Buddha being an enlightened teacher(not a god). Values of compassion, respect for all living things. Authority:
	 Buddhist stories illustrating these values, eg. Siddhartha and the swan, The Monkey King. Expressions of Belief: Worship in home.
	 Introduction to meditation. Symbols and aids to worship, beads, prayer wheel, flags, lotus flower. Impact of Belief: The impotence of the Buddhist community. How mutual support and responsibility is shown.
Summer 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.

	
	Religious Diversity:
	What can we find out about our local faith/religious communities?
	eg.
	How do Hindus show belonging?
	How do Muslims worship at home and in the mosque?
	How do Jewish people celebrate Shabbat?
	How do Humanists express their beliefs?
	How do Sikhs treat the Guru Granth Sahib as sacred?
	Year 3. Christianity Hinduism
Autumn 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	Note: Whole school approach to Christmas/Easter
	How and why is Christmas celebrated by Christians?
	How and why is Easter celebrated by Christians?
	How do Hindus worship?
	Belief: Belief in One God, One Supreme Being (Brahman), represented and worshipped in many forms: o the Trimurti (Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva) o male, female and animal deities as representations of God o the concept of avatars e.g. Rama, Krishna.
	Authority: • Introduction to sacred texts e.g. Vedas, Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana and how they are used by Hindus.
	Expressions of Belief: Worship at home and in the mandir to include puja, Arti/Arati, the role of the Murtis, imagery and symbolism, the importance of individual, family and communal worship.

	The importance of music, dance, drama, artefacts, mantras, food, stories, customs in celebrations and worship.
	The sacred thread initiation ceremony as an expression of commitment, religious identity, belonging.
	Impact of Belief.
	Introduction to how Hindu beliefs and values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.
Autumn 2.	Belief
	Authority
	Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	How do Hindus worship cont. How and why is Advent important to Christians?
	Developing understanding of the nature of God and key Christian beliefs: Creation, Incarnation, Salvation. Belief:
	 Introduction to God as Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit): creator God, saving God, powerful God.
	 Jesus as the Son of God
	Authority:
	 The Bible as the sacred book, the 'Big Picture' story of the Bible in showing God's relationship with humanity: Creation and Fall, Incarnation, Salvation; its importance and impact for Christians today.
	 The significance of Jesus as the Son of God in Christian belief shown through key events in his life: birth, baptism, temptation, ministry, entry into Jerusalem, arrest, trial, crucifixion, resurrection.
	The role of clergy in local and national churches
	Expressions of Belief:
	 The significance of rituals/objects/symbols associated with Christian worship, Christmas (including Advent and Epiphany), Easter (including Lent, Holy Week), Pentecost.
	 How church buildings, symbolic objects and actions are used to express beliefs and feelings e.g. liturgical colours, special clothes, cross, candle, the rosary, praying hands, kneeling, raising hands, statues, banners, windows, altar and pulpit cloths.
	Impact of Belief:
	 How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying.
	• How Christians today live by a moral code based on the teaching of Jesus (love God and love your neighbour as yourself) and how this is demonstrated through their actions and attitudes by showing love, forgiveness, charity e.g. work of local churches, Christian charities such as CAFOD, Christian Aid, Salvation Army and individuals.
Spring 1.	Belief
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Authority
	Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	What can we learn about Christian worship and beliefs by visiting churches?
	Belief:
	 The nature of God as Creator, Just, Ruler, Loving, Holy, Powerful, God who provides and forgives. Shown through metaphors for God (e.g. God as Potter, Father, Rock, Shepherd, Shield) and through stories, symbols, art, icons.
	 Jesus as the Son of God - the significance of the incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection, showing the special nature of Jesus and what this means for Christians today [Incarnation and Salvation].
	Authority:

	 How the Bible is used in private and communal worship and everyday living.
	The ministry of Jesus and Christian beliefs about Jesus:
	 o Jesus as teacher - including selected parables o Jesus as miracle worker - healing miracles, nature miracles
	o Jesus having power to change lives e.g. disciples
	Expressions of Belief:
	 Introduction to diversity of practice in worship in different churches.
	How commitment, belonging and religious identity are expressed through rituals and ceremonies e.g. first communion, confirmation, membership ceremony.
	• The significance of Cathedrals (and other important Christian places in the North East) as a place for worship, pilgrimage and understanding of Christian heritage.
	Impact of Belief:
	 How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying.
	 How Christians today live by a moral code based on the teaching of Jesus (love God and love your neighbour as yourself) and how this is demonstrated through their actions and attitudes by showing love, forgiveness, charity e.g. work of local churches, Christian charities such as CAFOD, Christian Aid, Salvation Army and individuals.
	• How Christians show commitment and belonging to the Christian community e.g. going to worship, voluntary work within the church, giving money.
Spring 2.	
	Belief. Authority.
	Expression of Belief.
	Impact of Belief.
	What do Christians remember on Palm Sunday?
	Belief:
	 Jesus as the Son of God - the significance of the incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection, showing the special nature of Jesus and what this means for Christians today [Incarnation and Salvation].
	 The nature of God as Creator, Just, Ruler, Loving, Holy, Powerful, God who provides and forgives.
	Authority:
	 The Bible as the sacred book, the 'Big Picture' story of the Bible in showing God's relationship with humanity: Creation and Fall, Incarnation, Salvation; its importance and impact for Christians today.
	 The significance of Jesus as the Son of God in Christian belief shown through key events in his life: birth, baptism, temptation, ministry, entry into Jerusalem, arrest, trial, crucifixion, resurrection.
	Expressions of Belief:
	 The significance of rituals/objects/symbols associated with Christian worship, Christmas (including Advent and Epiphany), Easter (including Lent, Holy Week), Pentecost.
	Impact of Belief:
	 How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying.
	• Introduction to how Christian values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.
Summer 1.	Belief
	Authority
	Expressions of Belief

	Impact of Belief.
	What do Hindus believe?(continued into Summer 2).
	Belief:
	• The nature of God as expressed in murtis (images), pictures, symbols, Aum.
	 Introduction to belief in atman, karma, ahimsa, reincarnation.
	Authority:
	 Traditional Hindu stories with a moral and their significance for Hindus e.g. the story of Rama and Sita in the Ramayana (good wins over evil, the value of loyalty,
	sacrifice and love). Expressions of Belief:
	• How beliefs and feelings are expressed through the communal celebrations of Divali, Holi.
	 The role of pilgrimage, how beliefs are expressed through visits to sacred sites e.g. Varanasi on the River Ganges. Impact of Belief:
	 How belief in karma has impact on behaviour and actions e.g. Seva (service for others).
	 How belief in ahimsa has an impact on behaviour and actions e.g. non-violence, vegetarianism/food laws.
Summer 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief. See Summer 1.
	Year 4.
	Christianity
Autumn 1.	Belief Authority
	Expressions of Belief
	Impact of Belief.
	Note: Whole school approach to Christmas/Easter
	How and why is Christmas celebrated by Christians?
	How and why is Easter celebrated by Christians?
	What do we know about the Bible and why is it important to Christians?
	Belief:

	Impact of Belief. Whole school approach to Christmas/Easter How and why is Christmas celebrated by Christians? How and why is Easter celebrated by Christians? Why do Christians call Jesus the light of the world?
Autumn 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief
	actions and attitudes by showing love, forgiveness, charity e.g. work of local churches, Christian charities such as CAFOD, Christian Aid, Salvation Army and individuals. How Christians show commitment and belonging to the Christian community e.g. going to worship, voluntary work within the church, giving money.
	How Christians today live by a moral code based on the teaching of Jesus (love God and love your neighbour as yourself) and how this is demonstrated through their
	Impact of Belief: How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying.
	How commitment, belonging and religious identity are expressed through rituals and ceremonies e.g. first communion, confirmation, membership ceremony.
	Prayer and its importance for Christians, including different types of prayer (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication), The Lord's Prayer, individual prayer, aids to prayer.
	Expressions of Belief:
	Different types of writing (Old Testament and New Testament).
	The Bible as the sacred book, the 'Big Picture' story of the Bible in showing God's relationship with humanity: Creation and Fall, Incarnation, Salvation; its importance and impact for Christians today.
	Authority:
	The otherness of God (transcendent) who inspires awe, wonder, devotion.
	The nature of God as Creator, Just, Ruler, Loving, Holy, Powerful, God who provides and forgives. Shown through metaphors for God (e.g. God as Potter, Father, Rock, Shepherd, Shield) and through stories, symbols, art, icons.

	Belief:
	 Developing understanding of the nature of God and key Christian beliefs: Creation, Incarnation, Salvation. Jesus as the Son of God - the significance of the incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection, showing the special nature of Jesus and what this means for Christians today.
	Authority:
	 The ministry of Jesus and Christian beliefs about Jesus: Jesus as teacher - including selected parables Jesus as miracle worker - healing miracles, nature miracles Jesus having power to change lives e.g. disciples The role of clergy in local and national churches e.g. vicar/minister/pastor/priest/bishop/ Archbishop/Pope.
	Expressions of Belief:
	 The significance of rituals/objects/symbols associated with Christian worship, Christmas (including Advent and Epiphany), Easter (including Lent, Holy Week), Pentecost. How church buildings, symbolic objects and actions are used to express beliefs and feelings e.g. liturgical colours, special clothes, cross, candle, the rosary, praying.
	Impact of Belief:
	 How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying. How Christians today live by a moral code based on the teaching of Jesus (love God and love your neighbour as yourself) and how this is demonstrated through their actions and attitudes by showing love, forgiveness, charity e.g. work of local churches, Christian charities such as CAFOD, Christian Aid, Salvation Army and individuals. How Christians show commitment and belonging to the Christian community e.g. going to worship, voluntary work within the church, giving money.
Spring 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	What do Christians believe about Jesus?
	Belief:
	Jesus as the Son of God - the significance of the incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection, showing the special nature of Jesus and what this means for Christians today [Incarnation and Salvation].

	Authority:
	• The significance of Jesus as the Son of God in Christian belief shown through key events in his life: birth, baptism, temptation, ministry, entry into Jerusalem, arrest, trial, crucifixion, resurrection.
	The ministry of Jesus and Christian beliefs about Jesus:
	o Jesus as teacher - including selected parables
	o Jesus as miracle worker - healing miracles, nature miracles
	o Jesus having power to change lives e.g. disciples.
	Expressions of Belief:
	Introduction to diversity of practice in worship in different churches.
	• Prayer and its importance for Christians, including different types of prayer (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication), The Lord's Prayer, individual prayer, aids to prayer.
	Impact of Belief:
	How Christians show commitment and belonging to the Christian community e.g. going to worship, voluntary work within the church, giving money.
	Commitment shown through life in a monastic community/religious order, becoming a priest/vicar/minister.
	• Introduction to how Christian values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.
Spring 2.	Belief. Authority. Expression of Belief. Impact of Belief.
	Why is Lent such an important period for Christians?
	Belief:
	Introduction to God as Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit): creator God, saving God, powerful God.

Jesus
• Jesus as the Son of God - the significance of the incarnation, ministry, death and resurrection, showing the special nature of Jesus and what this means for Christians today [Incarnation and Salvation].
Authority:
The Bible as the sacred book, the 'Big Picture' story of the Bible in showing God's relationship with humanity: Creation and Fall, Incarnation, Salvation; its importance and impact for Christians today.
The significance of Jesus as the Son of God in Christian belief shown through key events in his life: birth, baptism, temptation, ministry, entry into Jerusalem, arrest, trial, crucifixion, resurrection.
The ministry of Jesus and Christian beliefs about Jesus:
o Jesus as teacher - including selected parables
o Jesus as miracle worker - healing miracles, nature miracles
o Jesus having power to change lives e.g. disciples.
Expressions of Belief:
The significance of rituals/objects/symbols associated with Christian worship, Christmas (including Advent and Epiphany), Easter (including Lent, Holy Week), Pentecost.
• How church buildings, symbolic objects and actions are used to express beliefs and feelings e.g. liturgical colours, special clothes, cross, candle, the rosary, praying hands, kneeling, raising hands, statues, banners, windows, altar and pulpit cloths.
How commitment, belonging and religious identity are expressed through rituals and ceremonies e.g. first communion, confirmation, membership ceremony.
Impact of Belief:
How belief in God will affect Christians e.g. their belief in life after death, going to church, praying.
• How Christians today live by a moral code based on the teaching of Jesus (love God and love your neighbour as yourself) and how this is demonstrated through their actions and attitudes by showing love, forgiveness, charity e.g. work of local churches, Christian charities such as CAFOD, Christian Aid, Salvation Army and individuals.
• How Christians show commitment and belonging to the Christian community e.g. going to worship, voluntary work within the church, giving money.
Introduction to how Christian values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.

Summer 1.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief. Why do people visit a Cathedral today?
	Belief:
	The nature of God as Creator, Just, Ruler, Loving, Holy, Powerful, God who provides and forgives. Shown through metaphors for God (e.g. God as Potter, Father, Rock, Shepherd, Shield) and through stories, symbols, art, icons.
	The otherness of God (transcendent) who inspires awe, wonder, devotion.
	Authority:
	The role of clergy in local and national churches e.g. vicar/minister/pastor/priest/bishop/ Archbishop/Pope.
	Expressions of Belief:
	The significance of Cathedrals (and other important Christian places in the North East) as a place for worship, pilgrimage and understanding of Christian heritage.
	How beliefs are expressed through pilgrimage e.g. to Lourdes, Lindisfarne, Durham Cathedral, Holy Land.
	Impact of Belief:
	Commitment shown through life in a monastic community/religious order, becoming a priest/vicar/minister.
	Introduction to how Christian values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.
	• The impact of local Christian places of significance (e.g. Tynemouth Priory, Newcastle/Durham Cathedral, Lindisfarne, Jarrow) for people today.
Summer 2.	Belief Authority Expressions of Belief Impact of Belief.
	Thematic unit- similarities and differences within and between religious and non-religious worldviews e.g. about ritual, the environment, care for others.