



St Nicholas^{CE}
First School

learning and believing, growing and achieving

Subject Information: Religious Education

Christianity

Making
connections

**Learning and Believing,
Growing and Achieving**

Sikhism

Beliefs

Islam

Understanding
texts.

Principles of RE at St Nicholas CE First School

‘An important element in the distinctiveness of Church Schools will lie in the emphasis on the quality of religious education in the curriculum, which whilst covering other faiths will give particular weight to the Christian faith as held by the Church of England’. Excellence and distinctiveness

At St Nicholas CE First School, Religious Education :



- Promotes awe and wonder.
- Equips children with knowledge of Christianity Sikhism and Islam.
 - Encourages and promote questioning skills.
 - Teaches tolerance and diversity.
 - Celebrates each child uniqueness.
- Promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and to prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of the present and the future



What is Religious Education?

Religious Education makes a distinctive contribution to the school curriculum by developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of religion, religious beliefs, practices, language and traditions and their influence on individuals, communities, societies and cultures. It enables pupils to consider and respond to a range of important questions related to their own spiritual development, the development of values and attitudes and fundamental questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life.

Religious Education is an essential component of a broad and balanced education.

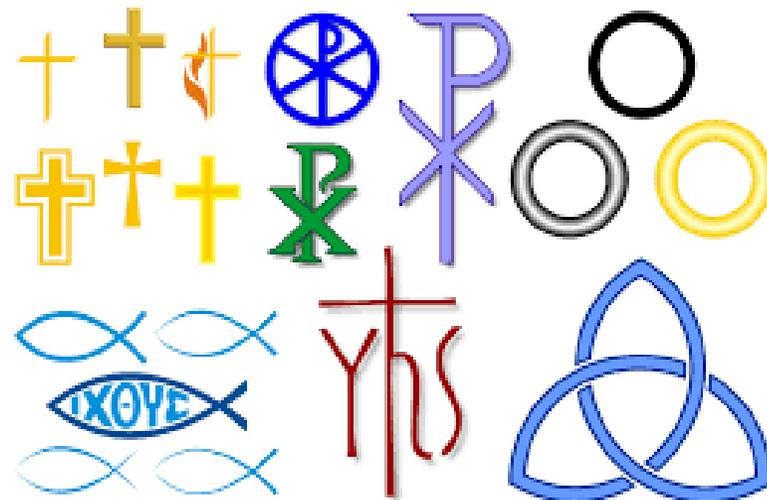
Religious Education is concerned with the deep meaning that individuals and groups make of their experiences and how this helps them give purpose to their lives. It provides opportunities to explore, make and respond to the meanings of those experiences in relation to the beliefs and experiences of others as well as to one's own experiences.

All schools have to teach RE but parents can withdraw their children for all or part of the lessons after discussions with the head teacher.

How is RE taught?

RE is taught for 1 hour per week from Year 1 – 4 following the Lichfield Diocese Agreed Syllabus and the Understanding Christianity schemes of work. Reception also use these documents to assist their planning and delivery of lessons. In Early Years RE is taught through the specific strand 'Understanding of the World' and will also celebrate other festival in the religious calendar such as Diwali.

The Understanding Christianity scheme was introduced in April 2017 and it has proved to be a successful tool in helping children understand stories and parables and to make connections and links to their lives, the lives of people in the community and between faiths. This approach has led to children at St Nicholas First School having excellent religious literacy which was commented upon in the SIAMs report 2018.





How will pupils learn?

Children will begin their learning on a topic through the use of a 'big questions' for example 'Why do Christians put a cross in the Easter garden?' Children are asked to write or respond to this questions. In doing this a base line assessment is carried out. Throughout the topic children to explore answers to this question through stories, drama, real life experiences, visits and speakers. At the end of the topic children will revisit the questions and responses collected. This allow assessments to be monitored to see how much progress has been made.

What will pupils learn? Pupils will learn the following in each year group:

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Reception	CREATION/GOD F1 Why is the word God so important to Christians?	INCARNATION F2 Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?	Why are some stories special?	SALVATION F3 Why do Christians put a cross in the Easter garden?	What happens in our church?	What makes every person special, unique and important?
Yr1/KS1A	GOD 1.1 What do Christians believe God is like?	What are festivals and why do we have them?	What do Muslims believe?	SALVATION 1.5 Why does Easter matter to Christians? <i>(Core learning)</i>	How do Christians talk to God?	How can I make a difference in the world?
Yr2/KS1B	CREATION 1.2 Who made the world?	INCARNATION 1.3 Why does Christmas matter to Christians?	What do Jews/Sikhs/Hindus believe?	SALVATION 1.5 Why does Easter matter to Christians? <i>(Digging deeper)</i>	GOSPEL 1.4 What is the Good News that Jesus brings?	What is faith and what difference does it make?
Yr3/LKS2A	INCARNATION/GOD 2a.3 What is the Trinity? <i>(Core learning - Baptism and the Grace)</i>	What are festivals of light?	What can we learn from a mosque?	SALVATION 2a.5 Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?	PEOPLE OF GOD 2a.6 When Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost?	Is life like a journey?
Yr4/LKS2B	CREATION/FALL 2a.1 What do Christians learn from the creation story?	INCARNATION/GOD 2a.3 What is the Trinity? – <i>(Digging deeper – the Incarnation)</i>	What can we learn from a synagogue/ Gurdwara / Mandir?	How do Christians remember Jesus' last supper?	KINGDOM OF GOD 2a.4 What kind of world did Jesus want?	PEOPLE OF GOD 2a.2 What is it like to follow God?



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How does it promote fundamental British Values?

RE lessons at St Nicholas offer a structured and safe space during curriculum time for reflection, discussion, dialogue and debate. The excellent teaching of RE enables pupils to learn to think for themselves about British values. In RE children learn the skills and develop attitudes that help protect themselves and others from harm throughout their lives.

The RE classroom must be a democratic classroom where all pupils have an equal right to be heard and democracy is modelled by the teacher and expected of every child. In RE children examine different codes for living and consider the value of the rule of law where all people are equal before the law. They consider questions about identity and belonging. Religion is a good case study of the balance between individual liberty and the greater good. RE can challenge pupils to be increasingly respectful and to celebrate diversity of different cultures, faiths and beliefs.

