

Religious Education

at Malin Bridge

'Religious Education is the study of the world's religions, faiths and world views. Religious Education is about understanding a group of people's beliefs and traditions.'

"RE is about being respectful and having knowledge of different religions and how people celebrate." Lottie Y6

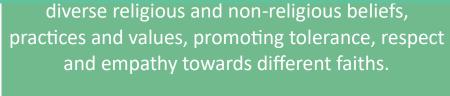
"We learn to respect other people's religions." Joseph Y6



Vision

Our vision for Religious Education is to inspire pupils to be resilient, tolerant, mindful and inquisitive learners. Our curriculum fosters an understanding and appreciation of

AT MALIN BRIDGE PRIMARY OUR PUPILS...



Good is not enough if it can be better and better is not enough if it can be best.



Malin Bridge children are aspirational



Intent

A curriculum that provides pupils with the opportunity to develop tolerance, understanding, empathy and acceptance, helping them to become responsible and inquisitive members of society.

To equip pupils with the skill of critical thinking, enabling them to make informed decisions concerning religion and belief.

To provide pupils with the opportunity for personal self-reflection and exploration.

Knowledge in Religious Education

The Religious Education curriculum is built around three key strands: **substantive content and concepts, disciplinary knowledge of methods** and **personal disciplinary knowledge**.

| Key Strand | Description | mplementation at Malin Bridge Primary School | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Substantive content and concepts | Knowledge about various religious and non-religious traditions, beliefs, and practises; the content taught. | Curriculum documents detail the precise knowledge which each unit includes. Whilst pupils are not expected to retain all this knowledge, they should be able to answer enquiry and concept questions confidently demonstrating secure understanding of core knowledge. | |
| Disciplinary knowledge | Different 'ways of knowing' that enables pupils to understand and use some of the methods and techniques associated with studying religious and non-religious traditions. | Disciplinary knowledge is framed around beliefs (theology), thinking (philosophy) and living (social sciences). Please see Disciplinary Knowledge in RE for details of how each element is approached. | |
| Personal disciplinary knowledge | Building awareness of our own position, presuppositions and values about religious and non-religious traditions studied. | Pupils are taught about their personal 'lens' through which they see the world. The RE curriculum builds towards the threshold concept of individuals not having a fully objective experience of the world. Children begin to unpack their influences and attitudes to religious and non-religious ideas through each enquiry, preparing them for KS3 and beyond. | |

Disciplinary knowledge model

This is about living.

It explores the diverse ways in which people practise their beliefs. It engages with the impact of beliefs on individuals, communities and societies.

literacy beliefs through a

curriculum

balanced RE

Religious

Theology

This is about believing.

It looks at where beliefs come from, how they have changed over time, how they are applied differently in different contexts and how they relate to each other.

Social Sciences

Philosophy

This is about thinking.

It is about finding out how and whether things make sense. It deals with questions of morality and ethics. It takes seriously questions about reality, knowledge and existence.



Key Concepts

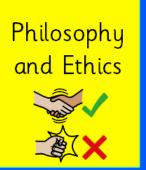
The RE curriculum is structured around four key concepts: diversity, belief and practises, festivals and celebrations, and philosophy and ethics. These concepts have been thoughtfully selected to ensure that pupils not only retain essential information but also develop a well-rounded understanding of religious and ethical issues. Through the RE curriculum, pupils gain invaluable insights into the universal themes of human existence, morality and spirituality.



Beliefs and Practises













Religious Education Subject Story

There are **Subject Stories** for all foundation subjects, which detail the journey pupils go on through each curriculum area during their time at Malin Bridge. They contain the key concepts, which are built over time, as well as how each unit fits into the 'bigger picture' of the curriculum. Finally, the subject stories also contain an agreed glossary of definitions to ensure consistent language is used throughout school.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT MALIN BRIDGE

- Using a diverse range of religious people, how has their faith impacted on their lives?
- Using examples, how has someone's beliefs and practises affected their lives and the wider world?
- How do people mark festivals and celebrations, and why are they important?

Key Concepts

Philosophy and ethics

How does a person's religious or non-religious beliefs affect how they answer philosophical or ethical questions?



Religious Education at Malin Bridge seeks to promote the school values of celebrate diversity and enquire about the world. Through RE, pupils will develop a deep rstanding of other people, different faiths and world views, as well as different ways of life. RE lessons are built around an enquiry approach which develops children's critical thinking skills, enabling them to make informed decisions concerning religion and belief. Each religion covered is given equal treatment, and will not be promoted in any way. RE does not try to persuade, but rather to inform and develop skills with which evaluation can take place. Each unit covered will reinforce the notion of variation within the faith studied, emphasisina that the common beliefs shared are not the beliefs of all members of that particular religion

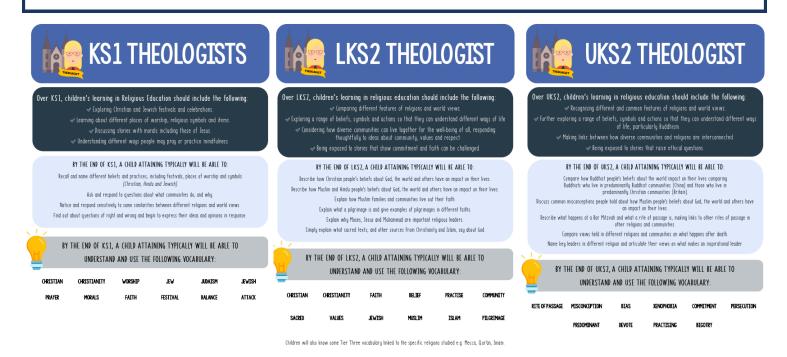
morals, rules, right, wrong, sin, debate, consider, reflect, values, perspective, paint of view

Religious Education Glossary

| biased | a view that is one-sided |
|-------------------|---|
| Catholic | A Christian group that believes that the Pope represents God on earth. |
| Christianity | A religion based on the teachings and practises of Jesus Christ. |
| Church of England | A branch of the Christian faith which was formed by Henry VIII. |
| clergy | The people who work in the Church: Popes, Bishops, Priests, Monks and Nuns. |
| commitment | a promise or firm decision to do something |
| empathy | to share or understand the emotions and feelings of another person. |
| faith | a strong belief in God or a particular religion |
| idolatry | The worship of idols |
| martyr | Someone who dies for their religious beliefs. |
| migration | the process of people travelling to a new place to live, usually in large numbers. |
| morals | standards for good or bad behaviour |
| persecution | unfair or cruel treatment over a long period of time because of race, religion or political beliefs |
| pilgrim | a person who makes a journey to a special place for religious reasons. |

Skills Sheets

There are skills sheets for each foundation subject, for each phase, detailing the practical and disciplinary knowledge. These include what a child who is attaining typically, should **be able to do by the end of their phase**. They also include the key vocabulary which children should be able to use.

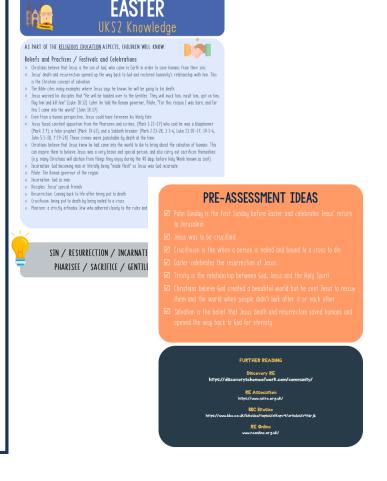


The subject story and skills sheets are available upon request.

Knowledge Sheets

Each unit taught has a corresponding knowledge sheet which details the precise **substantive knowledge** that pupils will be taught. This provides consistency across all classes, so all children are exposed to the same knowledge. The knowledge listed is not all for memorisation; rather, it provides a context to support children in developing skills and disciplinary knowledge.

These documents also detail the prior knowledge children need to have in order to assimilate new knowledge into existing schema.









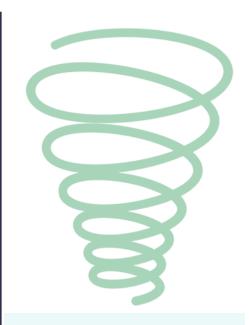
Religions and Worldviews

Religious Education at Malin Bridge follows a 2-year cycle (Y1-6) with units being delivered every half term. Units studied ensure a balance of religions within the school community, the community within which school is located, the UK community and the global community. They have also been selected based on those taught as KS3. The principal religions studied are **Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism, Buddhism and Islam.** Humanist and non-religious beliefs are woven into units as appropriate, as well as diversity within each specific tradition, in order to provide children with a balanced overview of perspectives.

Throughout each academic year of the 2-year cycle, children engage in a structured curriculum that delves into Christianity and one additional religion. This structured approach is designed to facilitate a deepening comprehension of the Christian faith whilst simultaneously exploring the parallels and distinctions between the studied religions. This approach prevents overwhelming exposure to multiple religions at once and enables children to establish a solid foundation in one faith before moving on. Regular recapping of previous learning ensures knowledge is committed to pupils' long-term memories.

Pupils develop their understanding of these concepts through meaningful examples and repeated exposure in a range of contexts from EYFS to Y6, including the integrated resource. The 3D approach of the curriculum design ensures these concepts are revisited and built upon across other subjects areas and all key stages. Over time, pupils schemata will grow to develop a complex and rich understanding of these concepts.

Each Religious Education unit acts as a building block to ensure the knowledge and concepts learned directly build on previous units and lay foundations for what pupils will go on to learn both within Malin Bridge and in KS3.



Please refer to the Curriculum booklet for more information about the 3D curriculum.

Religious Education in the Early Years

Pupils in FS2 (Reception) engage with Religious Education through integrating key learning into the wider Foundation Stage curriculum as well as through a dedicated weekly Religious Education lesson. Teachers plan for children to recognise that there are different people and different perspectives in the world. Children are encouraged to talk about the similarities and differences they notice, and begin to develop the British value *mutual respect* when talking about others. Pupils are introduced to key vocabulary and concepts which they will build upon in further Religious Education lessons in KS1 and 2. *Please see the Religious Education subject story for details*. The use of first-hand experiences, such as handling artefacts, meeting people of faith and visiting religious places, helps children to develop their understanding of religion (and other worldviews) and the links that exist between content taught.

In FS1 (Nursery), pupils follow the same faiths, themes and concepts as FS2 in order to lay the foundations for future learning. Again, much of this learning takes place through the wider Foundation Stage curriculum, with enrichment opportunities being used to help pupils build a solid schema upon which they can build.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM CYCLE

| | AUTUMN 1 | AUTUMN 2 | SPRING 1 | SPRING 2 | SUMMER 1 | SUMMER 2 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| EYFS 1 | Christianity: Special People What makes people special? | Christianity: Christmas Hinduism: Hanukkah and Diwali What is Christmas? | Hinduism: Celebrations How do people celebrate? | <u>(hristianity: Easter</u> <u>Islam: Eid and Ramadan</u> What is Easter? | Story Time What can we learn from stories? | Christianity/Hinduism/Judaism: Special Places What makes places special? |
| EYFS 2 | Christianity: Special People What makes people special? | Christianity: Christmas <u>Hinduism: Hanukkah and Diwali</u> What is Christmas? | Hinduism: Celebrations How do people celebrate? | <u>Christianity: Easter</u> <u>Islam: Eid and Ramadan</u> What is Easter? | Story Time What can we learn from stories? | (hristianity/Hinduism/Judaism: Special Places What makes places special? |





Additional knowledge sheets are available on request.







Pedagogy in Religious Education

Teachers use a range of pedagogical approaches to teaching Religious Education, which are selected based on the content being delivered. These include:

- Interviewing people of faith about their beliefs and the impacts these beliefs have on their lives and communities,
- Using religious stories from holy books and about religious people to help pupils connect to their own feelings and experiences,
- Debating enquiry questions and other 'big questions' which either arise throughout the unit or are ones planned in in order to facilitate development of children's personal knowledge,
- Discussing world events, including current world events using resources such as Newsround, in order to build pupil's understanding of the constant relevance of religion and RE to our modern world,

- Using other curriculum areas to reinforce RE content, for example learning about the reformation in LKS2 History (Tudor England) which recaps learning about Christianity and the notion that there is diversity within specific traditions.
- Philosophy for Children (P4C) helps to facilitate personal reflection, empathy and conversation about their own religious and non-religious worldviews,
- Providing common experiences such as visits to places of worship.





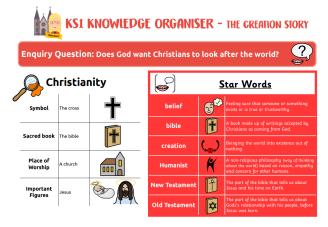




Knowledge Organisers

Knowledge organisers are produced centrally to ensure consistency in terminology across school; this helps pupils to commit learning to their long-term memories. They also act as a prompt for previously studied units which support the current topic, as well as vocabulary support. Pupils use knowledge organisers in lessons and as part of their retrieval practise at other times.

Additional knowledge organisers are available upon request.







Religious Education Key Concepts









| Belief and | | EYFS Special Places | EYFS Special People |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| KS1 | Jesus as a | KS1 Shabbat | KS1 Creation Story |
| | LKS2 Christian Teachings | LKS2 Prayer at Home | LKS2 Islamic Belief |
| Key Concepts | | UKS2 The 8-Fold Path | UKS2 Buddha's Teachings |

Spaced Retrieval

The Religious Education retrieval flipchart provides teachers with an effective way of building pupil's long term memory. It has been meticulously designed to span content from Early Years to Y6, allowing pupils to recall key learning. This method is about fostering deep comprehension and ensuring that knowledge is retained in long-term memory. By revisiting and recalling information at spaced intervals, pupils build stronger cognitive connections, making the information more readily accessible when they need it most.

Other resources used for retrieval practise include:

- recap stickers
- knowledge organiser recaps
- mini quizzes
- partner recap tasks
- last lesson/last week/last unit/last year reviews











Scaffolding and Stretching

Teachers are highly skilled in adapting lessons to ensure they cater to the diverse learning needs of pupils. For those who need additional support and scaffolding, teachers and support staff use a range of techniques. These include providing more time to grasp concepts through pre-teach session and extended practise, using bespoke visual resources to support understanding, dual coding information, use of Kagan® structures to aid children's ability to formulate responses, use of knowledge organisers to aid recall of key information, adapted tasks and the opportunity to work with an adult or peer(s). For early graspers who quickly understand new concepts, teachers and support staff provide routine opportunities to extend their thinking. These activities encourage critical thinking, creativity and independent exploration. Flexible lesson structures allow early graspers the opportunity to access tasks sooner, whilst slower graspers have more time to practise skills and consolidate their understanding before moving on to independent work. Support staff are guided by the EEF's self-scaffolding model (taken from Making Best Use of Teaching Assistants) which helps to identify the most appropriate level of support for a child. Our goal is to create an inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive at their own pace and level of understanding.

Adaptations for SEND

We are deeply committed to providing an inclusive education that caters to the diverse needs of all our students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Our RE curriculum is thoughtfully adapted to ensure that SEND pupils receive the support and accommodations necessary to thrive academically and personally. Teachers know that concepts and language in RE lessons can create barriers for pupils. Language is therefore taught explicitly at the start of new topics and pre-teaching of new vocabulary happens where needed. Teachers use Communicate in Print to support learners, particularly when learning vocabulary related to abstract concepts such as faith, commitment and spirituality, and they also make sure children possess fluency in enough cognate words to be able to make sense of the subject-specific words being introduced. Teachers also ensure that all pupils, and especially those with SEND, have appropriate thinking time in order to respond in class discussions and debates. This approach is particularly helpful in increasing participation and building self-confidence.

Assessment: The Impact

To help staff make a **summative assessment** of pupils achievement at key points during the academic year, there are clear skills and knowledge outlined that a child is expected to achieve by the end of each school phase. Children will only be assessed against what they have covered and teachers use their professional judgement to give a PITA (*Point in Time Assessment*) score; these range from 1-6. Please see the Curriculum booklet for more information. Teachers use class questioning, outcomes in books, discussions and the results of tests or quizzes to make this decision.



Y2 Religious Education Assessment Guidance

Enquiry Questions

Christianity: Creation Story

Does God want Christians to look after the world?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Talk about how it felt to make something and how they think their creation should be cared for. Retell the Christian creation story and say some things that they believe God created on different days. Begin to talk about how they think the world was created.

Judaism: Shabbat

Is shabbat important to Jewish children?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Explain why a particular day is their favourite and why, and talk about when they would share a special meal. Talk about some of the things that Jewish people do to celebrate Shabbat, and start to explain how certain beliefs affect decision-making.

Judaism: Passover

How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to do?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Talk about why they do as some people ask but not others. Talk about the Seder meal with some detail and some correct vocabulary, and start to explain why Jews do this. Suggest what they think are the most and least important things Jews do that God asks them to do and add at least one reason why.

Christianity: Jesus as a friend

Was it always easy for Jesus to show friendship?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Talk about times when they were a good friend to others. Retell a story about Jesus and His friends and say how He showed friendship in that story. Talk about how Christians show friendship and how God helps them do this.

Christianity: Christmas

What gifts might Christians in my town have given Jesus if he had been born here instead?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Talk about a gift that is special to them and explain how they felt when they received it. Retell the Christian Christmas story, including which gifts were given to Jesus. Share an idea of a gift Christians might choose for Jesus and start to explain why He is special to them (incornation).

Christianity: Easter

Why was Jesus welcomed like a king or celebrity by the crowds on Palm Sunday?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Discuss how they might treat a special person and say why. Recall what happened on Palm Sunday and can say what some symbols in the Easter story mean. Recognise that Jesus must be special to Christians to be welcomed in their way and start to explain their beliefs about Him.

Judaism: Festivals

Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children?

Children achieving typically will be able to:

Talk about how it feels to forgive someone. Talk about what they think is an important part of Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur. Give reasons why different items are important to Jewish children at Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur.

Religious Education End Goals

Foundation subject assessment guidance sheets are available for Y1-Y6. These outline the RE units that have been covered for each year group and include the enquiry question explored as part of the unit. The assessment sheet contains clear criteria relating to the enquiry questions which details what a typical attaining child should be able to achieve by the end of the year. These, along with the knowledge sheets and skills sheets, help teachers to make their judgement.

A range of **formative assessment** strategies are used to help teachers to reshape the learning to meet the needs of all pupils in their class and ensure the pitch of the lesson is appropriate.

Key Vocabulary

Children working at ARE should be able to use the following vocabulary confidently and consistently:

AFFIRMATION, AGAPE, ATONEMENT, COVENANT, CRUCIFIED, DISCIPLE, EXODUS, FAITH, LEVITE, MEZUZAH, MORALS, NEW TESTAMENT, OLD TESTAMENT, PALM SUNDAY, PASSOVER, PESACH, PHARISEE, RESURRECTION, SABBATH, SALVATION, SEDER, SHABBAT, SHEMA, SIN, SYMBOLISM, TRANSITION, TRINITY.

PITA Guidance

Children working at a PITA 3 will be able to do the majority of the above statements with support.

For children working below PITA 3, please see the Y1 unit descriptors.

For children working **beyond PITA 4**, please see additional assessment guidance available <u>here</u>.

Appendices

(available on request)

Curriculum booklet

RE Knowledge sheets

SEND booklet

RE Subject story

Religious Education Assessment Guidance

Disciplinary Knowledge in RE

Religious Education Overview Cycle

