



"We believe, we achieve, we succeed in God's family"

'With God, all things are possible.' Matthew 19:26

THANKFULNESS ● COMMUNITY ● COMPASSION ● TRUTHFULNESS ● COURAGE ● FORGIVENESS

Religious Education

Vocabulary Progression

	Enquiry Question	Year 1 Vocabulary	Year 2 Vocabulary
YEAR A	Why is light an important symbol for Christians, Jews and Hindus? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Light, dark, candle, Diwali, Christmas, Hanukkah, symbol, celebration, festival, special	Light, hope, good vs evil, Jesus as light of the world, menorah, diva lamp, sacred, symbolise, represent, faith, tradition
	What does the nativity story teach Christians about Jesus? <i>(Theology)</i>	Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Bethlehem, angel, star, shepherds, kings, gift, Christmas	Nativity, Saviour, Son of God, incarnation, miracle, Emmanuel (God with us), prophecy, gospel, peace, message
	How do Christians belong to their faith family? <i>(Human/Social Sciences & Theology)</i>	Church, vicar, baptism, christening, cross, Bible, prayer, welcome, God	Community, belonging, Holy Spirit, font, promises, Christian family, service, worship, symbol, Godparents
	How do Jewish people celebrate Passover (Pesach)? <i>(Human/Social Sciences & Theology)</i>	Moses, Egypt, Pharaoh, matzah, seder plate, freedom, family, special meal	Exodus, slavery, deliverance, bitter herbs, unleavened bread, Haggadah, Ten Plagues, celebration, memory, tradition
	Why do people have different views about the idea of God? <i>(Philosophy & Theology)</i>	God, belief, different, same, question, thinking, people, talk, world	Creator, belief, atheist, faith, image of God, wonder, worship, prayer, view, respect
	Enquiry Question	Year 1 Vocabulary	Year 2 Vocabulary
YEAR B	What do my senses tell me about the world of religion and belief? <i>(Human/Social Sciences & Philosophy)</i>	See, hear, smell, taste, touch, special, wonder, feel, listen, look	Experience, explore, worship, sacred, feelings, senses, holy, spiritual, observe, reflect
	How does a celebration bring a community together? <i>(Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Party, happy, friends, family, food, music, dance, sharing, special, festival	Community, tradition, festival, ritual, gathering, belonging, faith, celebrate, culture, togetherness
	What do Jewish people remember on Shabbat? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Shabbat, candle, rest, Friday, Saturday, family, prayer, meal, blessing	Sabbath, challah bread, synagogue, synagogue, holy day, rest, peace, Torah, tradition, reflection
	What does the cross mean to Christians? <i>(Theology)</i>	Cross, Jesus, love, God, help, pray, symbol, church, story, gift	Salvation, sacrifice, resurrection, forgiveness, hope, faith, symbol, belief, grace, redemption
	How did the universe come to be? <i>(Philosophy & Theology)</i>	Sky, sun, moon, stars, world, animals, plants, earth, day, night	Creation, creator, God, universe, Big Bang, story, belief, wonder, miracle, beginning

	Enquiry Question	Year 3 Vocabulary	Year 4 Vocabulary	
YEAR A	Where do religious beliefs come from? <i>(Theology & Philosophy)</i>	Belief, story, holy book, prophet, teachings, God, tradition, community	Revelation, scripture, inspiration, faith, authority, prophet, sacred, culture, origin, myth	
	What do we mean by truth? Is seeing believing? <i>(Philosophy)</i>	Truth, fact, believe, see, think, question, opinion, trust	Evidence, belief, faith, proof, perception, perspective, doubt, certainty, meaning, interpretation	
	How do religious groups contribute to society and culture in the local area and beyond? <i>(Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Help, kindness, church, mosque, synagogue, charity, community, festival, share	Service, contribution, social justice, charity, interfaith, respect, tradition, cooperation, identity	
	What difference does being a Muslim make to daily life? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Prayer, mosque, Ramadan, fast, Qur'an, family, rules, halal, Eid, worship	Five Pillars, submission, community, faith, discipline, charity (Zakat), pilgrimage (Hajj), honesty, compassion	
	What does sacrifice mean? <i>(Theology & Philosophy)</i>	Giving, help, gift, love, Jesus, family, sharing	Selflessness, offering, commitment, forgiveness, resurrection, devotion, salvation, atonement, dedication	Selfless dedicati
	Enquiry Question	Year 3 Vocabulary	Year 4 Vocabulary	
YEAR B	How do people express commitment to a religion/worldview in different ways? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Prayer, worship, symbol, promise, festival, ritual, community	Devotion, pilgrimage, baptism, confirmation, meditation, ceremony, obedience, faith, practice	
	What is the Trinity? <i>(Theology)</i>	God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, three, one, love	Trinity, incarnation, divine, unity, person, mystery, relationship, Christian belief, doctrine	
	What is philosophy? How do people make moral decisions? <i>(Philosophy & Ethics)</i>	Right, wrong, choice, fair, rules, feelings, help, question	Morality, ethics, conscience, values, dilemma, justice, decision, consequence, reflection, reasoning	
	What do Muslims believe about God? <i>(Theology)</i>	Allah, one, creator, prophet, prayer, Qur'an, mosque, respect	Tawhid, mercy, omnipotent, omniscient, compassionate, immanent, transcendent, submission, faith	
	Why is there so much diversity of belief within Christianity? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Church, different, Bible, belief, worship, Jesus	Denominations, tradition, doctrine, interpretation, reform, Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, diversity, unity	

	Enquiry Question	Year 5 Vocabulary	Year 6 Vocabulary	
YEAR A	How do Buddhists explain suffering in the world? <i>(Theology & Philosophy)</i>	Suffering, Buddha, Four Noble Truths, desire, attachment, meditation, compassion	Dukkha, Nirvana, Samsara, enlightenment, craving, impermanence, mindfulness, karma, suffering, release	
	How and why does religion bring peace and conflict? <i>(Human/Social Sciences & Philosophy)</i>	Peace, war, religion, respect, kindness, argument, community, forgiveness	Justice, reconciliation, prejudice, tolerance, conflict resolution, sacred text, ethics, peacebuilding, pilgrimage	
	What can we learn about the world/knowledge/meaning of life from the great philosophers? <i>(Philosophy)</i>	Question, think, wise, meaning, knowledge, life, idea, truth, belief	Philosophy, logic, ethics, existentialism, morality, reason, wisdom, inquiry, perspective, argument	
	Creation and science: conflicting or complementary? <i>(Philosophy & Theology)</i>	Creation, science, story, world, believe, nature, animals, plants, sun, moon	Evolution, Big Bang, faith, evidence, theory, miracle, interpretation, harmony, doubt, compatibility	
	How do beliefs shape identity for Muslims? <i>(Theology & Human/Social Sciences)</i>	Muslim, faith, prayer, mosque, community, Ramadan, halal, family, belief	Ummah, identity, submission, Shahadah, pilgrimage (Hajj), values, ethics, dress code, cultural practices, belonging	Selfless dedication
	Enquiry Question	Year 5 Vocabulary	Year 6 Vocabulary	
YEAR B	Is believing in God reasonable? <i>(Philosophy & Theology)</i>	Believe, faith, doubt, reason, question, evidence, idea, think	Rational, agnostic, atheist, theist, argument, logic, faith, proof, worldview, belief	
	How has belief in Christianity/Islam impacted on music and art throughout history? <i>(Human/Social Sciences & Theology)</i>	Church, mosque, music, art, symbol, worship, story, prayer	Icon, calligraphy, hymn, manuscript, architecture, sacred, tradition, influence, inspiration, creativity	
	What does it mean to be human? Is being happy the greatest purpose in life? <i>(Philosophy & Ethics)</i>	Human, happy, feelings, family, friends, good, bad, right, wrong	Purpose, identity, morality, happiness, wellbeing, ethical, meaning, emotion, value, existence	
	What difference does the resurrection make to Christians? <i>(Theology)</i>	Jesus, resurrection, Easter, alive, hope, new life, church, believe	Salvation, eternal life, forgiveness, faith, resurrection, sacrifice, grace, promise, Christian belief, victory	
	How do Hindus make sense of the world? <i>(Theology & Philosophy)</i>	God, river, temple, festival, story, prayer, family	Dharma, karma, reincarnation, moksha, cycle of life, Vedas, puja, meditation, beliefs, spirituality	

How This Supports pupils Moving into Key Stage 3

- Establishes a Strong Knowledge Base

The vocabulary and enquiry approach in KS1 and KS2 ensure that pupils enter KS3 with a well-rounded understanding of key religious concepts, beliefs, and practices. This solid grounding enables them to engage more deeply with the complex and abstract theological, philosophical, and ethical issues they will encounter in KS3.

- Develops Analytical and Critical Thinking Skills

KS1 and KS2 encourage children to ask meaningful questions about religion and worldviews, explore multiple perspectives, and reflect on their own ideas. This prepares pupils for the higher-level analysis, evaluation, and independent thinking expected in KS3 Religious Studies.

- Prepares Pupils for Abstract and Academic Language

Through a carefully planned progression, pupils become familiar with increasingly sophisticated vocabulary—such as incarnation, tawhid, salvation, existentialism—which enables them to understand and use academic language confidently in KS3.

- Supports Interdisciplinary Connections

By linking RE vocabulary and enquiry with subjects like philosophy, history, science, and ethics, pupils develop transferable skills and concepts that are vital for success in KS3 across multiple subjects.

- Builds Confidence in Expression and Debate

As pupils learn precise vocabulary and how to structure arguments around beliefs and values, they develop the confidence to participate in debates, write balanced essays, and engage in reflective discussions—key skills for KS3 and beyond.

- Encourages Respectful Engagement with Diversity

Understanding a range of religious and non-religious worldviews and the language to discuss them sensitively prepares pupils for the pluralistic and diverse contexts they will study in KS3 and encounter in wider society.