



Religious Education

The Subject Vision

At Fleetville, we want our children to be open-minded, reflective and religiously literate thinkers. Our RE curriculum helps them to explore how beliefs, values, and traditions shape individual lives, local communities and global society. Following the statutory Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus 2023–28, our enquiry-led curriculum explores Christianity alongside major Abrahamic faiths, Dharmic traditions, and non-religious worldviews like Humanism.

Our RE curriculum is built upon three Big Ideas that are woven together over time:

- **The Golden Threads:** Recurring substantive concepts that run through our units such as Belief, Worship, Prayer, Symbol, Identity, Pilgrimage, Incarnation, Wisdom, and Sacrifice. Every time children encounter these threads across different faiths and worldviews, they add a new layer of meaning to their religious literacy.
- **Thinking Like a Religious Scholar:** Children learn to analyse how beliefs are lived out in daily life, evaluate sources of wisdom (sacred texts and teachings), and explore ultimate questions of ethics, and morality with empathy, logic and respect.
- **The Power of Stories & Sacred Texts:** Worldviews are passed down through sacred narratives, parables, and real-world lived experiences. We use rich stories, sacred texts, and personal accounts to make abstract theological and philosophical concepts concrete for young minds.

The Learning Journey

	Aut 1	Aut 2	Spr 1	Spr 2	Sum 1	Sum 2
Year 3	What do religious symbols represent?	What is prayer?	What do Muslims believe?		What are the Islamic rites of passage?	
Year 4	Why are sacred texts and holy books so important?		What is Sikhism?	Why is Easter important to Christians?	What are Hindu beliefs about God?	How do Hindus worship?
Year 5	What are the main beliefs and teachings of Judaism?	How do Jews' worship and demonstrate belonging?	What is a pilgrimage?	Where do people of different religions worship and what happens there?	What is a church?	
Year 6	Identity and belonging: our global community	Is Christmas just for Christians?	What do Buddhists believe?		How did it all begin? Creation and Science conflicting or complementary?	What is humanism? Ultimate questions

Implementation

- **The Overarching Inquiry:** Every RE unit begins with a central enquiry question (such as "What do Muslims believe?" or "Is pilgrimage worth it?"). Lessons act as stepping-stone questions that build vocabulary and knowledge to answer the big question.
- **Our Lesson Structure:** Lessons follow a consistent path: Revisit (checking prior learning and vocabulary), Explore (engaging with a stimulus, artefact, or story), Teach (introducing new religious/philosophical concepts), Practise (discussing ideas with peers or analysing texts) and Apply (completing an enquiry task).
- **The Worldviews Approach:** Teaching goes beyond memorising facts to explore how culture, family, and belief shape how people see and navigate the world.
- **Oracy:** Lessons include discussion and philosophical debate, giving children space to express their own worldviews without written demand.

Support

We believe that every child can engage meaningfully with RE and we adapt our environment and tasks to remove barriers to learning:

- **Quality First Teaching for All:** Because our RE curriculum is precise, teachers know exactly which core vocabulary and substantive concepts to focus on. Built-in retrieval practice ensures core ideas stick. This structure is beneficial for all children and vital for those who need extra support.
- **Flexible Ways to Show Success:** We value philosophical debate over a perfectly written page. Children who understand complex religious ideas but find writing a barrier are encouraged to share verbally during class discussions and pupil book study sessions.
- **Practical Tools and Technology:** We use Wdigit technology, sentence stems for debate, and graphic representations to scaffold abstract thinking. Children can also use Chromebook technology to help them read, research and simplify complicated texts independently.

Impact

We assess the impact of our RE curriculum through a variety of strategies:

- **Ongoing Formative Checks:** Teachers use in-lesson questioning alongside end-of-unit knowledge checks to gauge understanding and clarify misconceptions.
- **Low-Threshold, High-Ceiling Tasks:** During lessons, children complete open-ended tasks such as brain dumps or class debates to showcase the depth of their understanding.
- **Pupil Book Studies:** Curriculum leaders regularly review books and talk directly with children across year groups. These discussions evaluate how well key concepts stick in long-term memory.
- **The Ultimate Test:** Children leave Fleetville able to speak knowledgeably about world religions and secular worldviews, challenge stereotypes, articulate their own values, and show genuine respect for difference in a diverse world.