

Religious Education

Religious Education. It's more *RElevant* than you think

- What is the meaning of life?
- Why are we here?
- Is there a higher power?

Throughout the millennia of human experience, religion has expressed the deepest questions human beings can ask, and it holds a central place in the lives of all civilisations and cultures. Religious Studies at Byrchall aims to provide children with both a strong respect for faiths and cultures beyond Christianity and an understanding of the world around us.

Posing challenging questions, we aim to encourage students to reflect their own values and the values of others. In an increasingly material and technological world, that creates barriers between human interaction, we seek to connect young people spiritually, morally and culturally to the world around them.

We seek to engender a righteous sense of respect and tolerance for others, questioning assumptions, challenging casual prejudice and seeking answers to the questions that will confront them as citizens in modern Britain.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
RE and Life issues	Christian Practices	Buddhist Practices

Unit	Duration (lessons)	Learning Objectives/Outcomes
RE and Life Issues	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth-Science/religion • Origin of life • Use of the environment • Pollution/deforestation • Animal Issues • Animal experimentation • Sanctity of Life • Abortion issues • Euthanasia • Death and afterlife • Topic summary

Christian Practices	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different forms of worship and their significance: • Prayer and its significance, including the Lord's Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer. • The role and meaning of the sacraments: • The sacrament of Holy Communion/Eucharist and its significance for Christians, including different ways in which it is celebrated and different interpretations of its meaning. • The role and importance of pilgrimage and celebrations including: Lourdes and Iona • the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, including their importance for Christians in Great Britain today.
Buddhist Practices	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature, use and importance of Buddhist places of worship including temples, shrines, monasteries. • Puja, the significance and role of puja/devotional ritual in the home and in the temple • Meditation, the different aims, significance and methods of meditation • The practice and significance of different ceremonies and rituals associated with death and mourning Festivals and kamma (karma) and rebirth, compassion (karuna), loving kindness (metta). • The five moral precepts • The six perfections in the Mahayanan tradition

