Kindness Teamwork Curiosity

At Bushfield Road Infant School, our Religious Education curriculum is carefully designed to develop curiosity, promote kindness and strengthen teamwork, as pupils begin to explore beliefs, values and ways of living. We provide a safe, inclusive and engaging curriculum that reflects the needs of our community, including a high proportion of pupils eligible for pupil premium and a wide range of life experiences. Our aim is to prepare children for further learning by the end of Key Stage 1, ensuring they develop secure foundations in subject knowledge, key vocabulary, empathy and enquiry.

- **Kindness -** R.E. lessons explicitly develop pupils' capacity for empathy, respect and understanding. Through carefully chosen stories, role play, discussion and first-hand experiences, pupils learn how beliefs influence the way people treat others. They explore how kindness shapes relationships within families, communities and faith groups, both in the past and in the modern world.
- **Teamwork -** Pupils learn collaboratively through shared enquiry, structured discussion and group responses to meaningful questions (e.g. *"How should we care for each other?"*). They are supported to listen carefully to different viewpoints, express their own ideas clearly and work respectfully with others. This contributes to strong communication skills, positive behaviour and an inclusive school culture.
- **Curiosity -** R.E. encourages pupils to ask thoughtful questions about identity, belonging, belief and the wider world. Children progress from noticing similarities and differences in Nursery, to recognising and describing beliefs and practices in Reception and Year 1, and finally to beginning to explain and compare ideas by the end of Year 2. Enquiry is at the heart of the curriculum, enabling pupils to develop early critical thinking skills.

Curriculum Structure and Progression

Our curriculum follows the **Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus (2018–2023)** and is structured around the four key areas of enquiry:

- **God** (beliefs)
- **Being Human** (values and actions)

- **Community, Worship and Celebration** (practice and belonging)
- **Life Journey and Rites of Passage** (identity and meaning)

Learning is carefully sequenced so that pupils move from encountering religious stories and experiences, to understanding beliefs, and then to explaining how these beliefs influence people's lives. Christianity and Islam are taught as core religions, alongside opportunities to explore other religions and worldviews, ensuring pupils develop an understanding of diversity in modern Britain.

Knowledge, vocabulary and enquiry skills are deliberately built over time. Pupils are supported to move from recognising and describing, to making links and offering simple explanations by the end of Key Stage 1.

Quality of Teaching and Assessment
We prioritise high-quality, everyday teaching supported by continuous formative assessment. Teachers regularly check pupils' understanding and respond promptly to misconceptions or gaps in knowledge, particularly in Reception and Year 1 where strong foundations are essential. This ensures all pupils are well-prepared for the next stage of their learning in Key Stage 2.

Christianity Progression:

Strand	Nursery	EYFS	Year One	Year Two
God – concept	Explore the idea of Jesus as a special and important person.	Begin to understand that Christians believe in God.	Know that Christians believe God is the creator, guide and protector.	Explain simple Christian beliefs about God and Jesus using examples.
God – stories	Listen to simple Bible stories about Jesus.	Retell simple stories such as the Nativity and Easter.	Retell key Bible stories (e.g. Creation, Noah, life of Jesus).	Explain how Bible stories help Christians understand God.
God – meaning	Talk about what makes a person special.	Say what stories show about God (e.g. loving, caring).	Describe what Bible stories show about God's role.	Make links between Bible stories and Christian beliefs.

Being Human – behaviour	Talk about being kind and helping others.	Recognise that stories can teach people right and wrong.	Describe how Christians should treat others (e.g. through parables).	Explain how Christian beliefs influence behaviour and choices.
Being Human – examples	Share and help others in everyday situations.	Talk about stories where Jesus helps others.	Retell parables such as the Good Samaritan and Golden Rule.	Give examples of how Christians help others (e.g. charity work).
Community/Worship – places	Explore the idea that some places are special.	Recognise a church as a special place for Christians.	Identify key features of a church (e.g. cross, altar).	Explain why the church is important for worship and community.
Community/Worship – practice	Engage in role play linked to celebration and worship.	Recognise that Christians pray and sing in worship.	Describe what happens during Christian worship.	Compare different ways Christians might worship.
Community/Worship – festivals	Recognise key celebrations such as Christmas and Easter.	Know that Christmas and Easter are important to Christians.	Describe what happens during these festivals.	Explain the meaning of Christian celebrations (e.g. birth and resurrection of Jesus).
Life Journey – belonging	Talk about groups and families they belong to.	Recognise that some people belong to religions.	Know that baptism is a ceremony welcoming people into Christianity.	Explain how baptism symbols (e.g. water, candle) show belonging.
Life Journey – meaning	Talk about why families and groups are important.	Recognise that celebrations welcome people into groups.	Describe what happens in a baptism ceremony.	Explain why belonging to a faith community is important for Christians.

Christianity Vocabulary:

Strand	Nursery	EYFS	Year One	Year Two

God	Jesus, special, story, love	God, Bible, cross, church	creator, parable, miracle, Old Testament	disciples, resurrection, Trinity, New Testament, salvation
Being Human	kind, helpful, sharing, friend	right, wrong, caring, love	parable, kindness, behaviour, forgiveness	forgiveness, Golden Rule, respect, charity, compassion
Community/Worship	church, celebrate, sing	worship, prayer, Christmas, Easter	altar, cross, prayer, worship, festival	symbol, resurrection, service, worship, community
Life Journey	family, group, baby	belong, welcome, celebration	baptism, christening, promise	belonging, ceremony, commitment, symbol

Islam Progression:

Strand	Nursery	EYFS	Year One	Year Two
God – concept	Recognise that Muslims believe in one God called Allah.	Understand that Allah is important to Muslims.	Know that Muslims believe in one God (Tawhid).	Explain the importance of belief in one God for Muslims.
God – sources	Explore special books.	Recognise that the Qur'an is a special book for Muslims.	Know that the Qur'an teaches Muslims about Allah.	Explain why the Qur'an is important and how it guides Muslims.

God – meaning	Talk about what makes something special.	Recognise that Allah is important in the lives of Muslims.	Understand that Allah is seen as the creator and provider.	Explain what Muslims believe about Allah using simple language.
Being Human – behaviour	Talk about helping and sharing with others.	Recognise that stories teach people how to behave.	Describe how Muslims help others (e.g. giving to charity).	Explain how Muslim beliefs influence actions (e.g. Zakah).
Being Human – practice	Take part in sharing and caring activities.	Talk about stories showing kindness.	Describe the importance of Ramadan for Muslims.	Explain why Muslims fast and help others during Ramadan.
Community /Worship – places	Explore the idea of special places.	Recognise a mosque as a place of worship for Muslims.	Identify key features of a mosque.	Explain why the mosque is important to Muslims.
Community /Worship – practice	Engage in simple role play linked to prayer.	Recognise that Muslims pray regularly.	Describe the actions of Muslim prayer (salah).	Explain how prayer supports Muslims in their faith.
Community /Worship – festivals	Recognise the celebration of Eid.	Know that Eid is an important festival for Muslims.	Describe how Eid is celebrated.	Explain the importance of Eid for Muslim communities.
Life Journey – belonging	Talk about families and welcoming babies.	Recognise that people celebrate when babies are born.	Know some Muslim birth traditions (e.g. call to prayer).	Explain how aqiqah welcomes a baby into Islam.
Life Journey – meaning	Recognise special times in family life.	Understand that babies are welcomed in different ways.	Describe Islamic welcoming traditions.	Explain why belonging to the Muslim community is important.

Islam Vocabulary:

Strand	Nursery	EYFS	Year One	Year Two

God	Jesus, special, story, love	God, Bible, cross, church	creator, parable, miracle, Old Testament	disciples, resurrection, Trinity, New Testament, salvation
Being Human	kind, helpful, sharing, friend	right, wrong, caring, love	parable, kindness, behaviour, forgiveness	forgiveness, Golden Rule, respect, charity, compassion
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Life Journey	family, group, baby	belong, welcome, celebration	baptism, christening, promise	belonging, ceremony, commitment, symbol

R.E. Progression (Based on additional units):

Strand	Nursery	EYFS	Year One	Year Two
Belief and diversity	Notice that people are similar and different.	Recognise that people have different beliefs.	Describe similarities and differences between religions.	Explain similarities and differences between religions and worldviews.
Festivals	Compare different celebrations.	Recognise similarities (e.g. light in festivals).	Describe stories such as Diwali (Rama and Sita).	Compare different religious festivals and their meanings.
Places of worship	Talk about places that are special to people.	Recognise that different religions have different places of worship.	Describe similarities and differences between places of worship.	Explain how places of worship support belief and community.

Worldviews	Talk about ideas of right and wrong.	Recognise that not everyone has the same beliefs.	Begin to compare different ideas about life.	Understand simple ideas from non-religious worldviews such as Humanism.