



# Curriculum Statement for Religious Education (RE)



## Exploring Beliefs, Values and Big Questions

At Red Oaks, we believe that Religious Education (RE) is a vital part of our curriculum that helps children explore life's big questions, understand different worldviews, and reflect on their own beliefs. RE supports our school's commitment to British Values—particularly **Mutual Respect** and **Tolerance**—and helps children grow into thoughtful, respectful, and open-minded individuals.

### Intent

Our RE curriculum aims to:

- Help children make sense of the world and their place in it.
- Encourage curiosity, kindness, and respectful discussion.
- Develop understanding of major world religions and non-religious beliefs, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism, and Humanism.
- Support children's personal development by exploring values, meaning, and identity.
- Promote empathy, emotional awareness, and the ability to listen and respond to different perspectives.

RE at Red Oaks is not about telling children what to think or believe—it's about helping them explore, question, and understand.

### Implementation

We follow the **Swindon Agreed Syllabus for RE**, which provides a clear and balanced framework for learning. Children explore a wide range of beliefs and practices through:

- Stories, celebrations, and festivals
- Places of worship and religious symbols
- Ways people live out their faith in everyday life

Our RE lessons are enriched through:

- **Visits to places of worship**, such as local churches and temples
- **Guest speakers**, including faith leaders and community members
- **Celebration days and workshops**, where children explore festivals like Eid, Diwali, Holi, and Easter through food, music, dance, and crafts
- **Philosophy for Children (P4C)** sessions, encouraging respectful discussion of life's big questions
- **RE and Art projects**, including symbolic artwork, drama, and creative design

These experiences help bring RE to life and make learning meaningful and memorable.

## Impact

Through RE at Red Oaks, children:

- Develop a deeper understanding of different beliefs and cultures
- Learn to express their ideas clearly and respectfully
- Build empathy, emotional intelligence, and reflective thinking
- Are challenged to think deeply about values, identity, and purpose
- Gain confidence in discussing complex ideas and asking thoughtful questions

RE supports children's wellbeing, encourages critical thinking, and prepares them to live in a diverse and ever-changing world.

We are proud to offer a nurturing RE curriculum that helps children grow academically, socially, and spiritually. If you would like to know more or get involved, please speak to your child's teacher or our RE lead, **Miss Byrne**.

Year Group	Topics Explored
EYFS	Special stories, special places, special people, celebrations, belonging, kindness.
Year 1	Who is God? What and why do people celebrate? What makes a place special/sacred?
Year 2	Caring for others and caring for the World, Creation stories, symbols of faith, how people live, sacred texts.
Year 3	Festivals (e.g. Diwali, Easter), moral choices, places of worship, sacred texts.
Year 4	Sacred texts, prayer, forgiveness, community.
Year 5	Places of worship, justice, pilgrimage, comparing beliefs. Why do some people believe in God?
Year 6	Religious art and architecture. Big questions: What do religions say to us when life gets hard? What matters most to Christians and humanists?

## Useful links

- BBC Bitesize RE – Short videos and activities for KS1 and KS2  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmyb4wx>
- RE:Quest – Stories, games, and interviews exploring Christianity  
<https://request.org.uk>
- Let's Celebrate! (CBeebies) – Colourful videos about religious festivals for younger children  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate>
- Understanding Humanism – Learn about non-religious worldviews in a child-friendly way  
<https://understandinghumanism.org.uk>
- RE Today – Resources and ideas to support RE learning at home  
<https://www.retoday.org.uk>