Religious Education Curriculum Coverage

The six branches from Early Years to Year 6

This document gives a concise overview of what children learn as they revisit each branch of the Religious Education Directory, To Know You More Clearly, from Early Years to Year 6.

Creation and Covenant

Autumn 1: God as Creator; the gift of creation; God's call and covenant relationship with his people.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children hear that God made the world and that creation is good. They learn that each person is unique and loved, and begin to understand that we should care for one another and for our common home.
Year 1	Children explore the first Creation account as an ancient, prayerful poem. They learn that Christians believe all creation comes from God and meet the ideas of stewardship, prayer and Laudato Si'.
Year 2	Children revisit creation and learn about Noah. They explore God's covenant, the sign of the rainbow and the Christian belief that human beings are called to care for creation and live in relationship with God.
Year 3	Children look more closely at the poetry and symbolism of Genesis. They make links between belief in creation, human dignity, equality and responsibility for the world.
Year 4	Children study Abraham and the meaning of covenant. They consider the historical and cultural setting of the story and how Abraham's faith, hope and trust shaped his choices.
Year 5	Children study Moses, the Burning Bush, the Exodus covenant and the Ten Commandments. They explore how covenant and law help people to live in right relationship with God and one another.
Year 6	Children compare the Genesis accounts of creation and explore how Catholic teaching brings faith and science into dialogue. They study sin, stewardship and the Christian belief that, through Jesus, a new covenant is made.

Prophecy and Promise

Autumn 2: The prophets, Advent, God's promises and the birth of Jesus.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children encounter the Annunciation, Nativity, shepherds and Magi. They learn that Mary said yes to God and that Christians celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas.
Year 1	Children follow Luke's account from the Annunciation to the visit of the shepherds. They learn about Mary, angels, the Hail Mary and the Christian belief that Jesus reveals God's love.
Year 2	Children deepen their knowledge of Luke's infancy narrative, including Zechariah, Elizabeth, John the Baptist and Mary. They begin to recognise how promises are fulfilled in Jesus.
Year 3	Children explore the Mass and the way Catholics hear Scripture and celebrate Jesus' presence. During Advent, they consider how Christians prepare for the coming of Christ.
Year 4	Children study prophets, particularly Elijah and John the Baptist, and why prophets called people back to God's covenant. They compare Gospel accounts and explore the meaning of prophecy.
Year 5	Children study David, the promise of a lasting kingdom and psalms associated with him. They make links between Old Testament promises and Christian belief about Jesus as Messiah.
Year 6	Children explore women in salvation history and Mary's place within God's promise. They compare Matthew and Luke and consider the Magnificat as a prayer of hope, justice and change.

Galilee to Jerusalem

Spring 1: The life and ministry of Jesus, his teaching, miracles and revelation of the Kingdom of God.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children hear stories showing that Jesus welcomes, loves and cares for people, including children. They begin to recognise Jesus as God's Son and a friend to all.
Year 1	Children meet people who encounter Jesus in Luke's Gospel. They explore Jesus' mission, the calling of disciples and how meeting Jesus changes people.
Year 2	Children study Jesus' baptism, miracles and parables. They learn that Jesus teaches about God's love and the Kingdom of God through his words and actions.
Year 3	Children explore parables and miracles that reveal the Kingdom of God. They make links between Jesus' compassion, Catholic belief and how Christians are called to live.
Year 4	Children ask what it means to call Jesus the Messiah. They explore Peter's declaration of faith and how Jesus includes people who were excluded or overlooked.
Year 5	Children study the Beatitudes, the Transfiguration and the Lord's Prayer. They consider discipleship and how Jesus' teaching guides Christian choices today.
Year 6	Children study signs and "I am" sayings in John's Gospel. They explore what these reveal about Jesus and make links with Catholic beliefs, worship and the sacraments.

Desert to Garden

Spring 2: Lent, Holy Week, Jesus' suffering and death, and the hope of the Resurrection.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children learn that Lent is a time of preparation and hear the key events of Holy Week and Easter. They recognise Easter as a celebration of Jesus' new life.
Year 1	Children connect Jesus' time in the desert with Lent. They sequence the events of Holy Week and learn that Christians believe Jesus died and rose again.
Year 2	Children explore forgiveness and reconciliation through Lent and the events of Holy Week. They consider Jesus' words from the cross and the Christian belief that God forgives.
Year 3	Children study the feeding of the five thousand and the Last Supper. They make links with the Eucharist and explore Jesus' gift of himself to others.
Year 4	Children study the parable of the prodigal son, the works of mercy and Holy Week. They explore sin, forgiveness and how Christians put mercy into action.
Year 5	Children explore conscience, sin and the last things: death, judgement, heaven and hell. They study Lent as a call to return to God through prayer and action.
Year 6	Children study Holy Week through John's Gospel, including the washing of feet. They explore Jesus as servant and Messiah and make links with the Holy Thursday liturgy and Christian service.

To the Ends of the Earth

Summer 1: The Resurrection, Ascension, Pentecost, the Holy Spirit and the mission of the Church.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children hear a simple account of Pentecost and learn how the first Christians lived, prayed, shared and cared for one another.
Year 1	Children revisit the Resurrection, Ascension and Pentecost. They learn that the Holy Spirit gave the apostles courage to continue Jesus' mission.
Year 2	Children learn about the signs and symbols of the Holy Spirit and make links with Baptism. They explore how Christians belong to the Church and share the Good News.
Year 3	Children study Pentecost, the Trinity and the early Church. They make links between Scripture, the Mass and the mission of Christians today.
Year 4	Children study Peter, the Resurrection appearances and the growth of the Church. They explore how the Church continues Jesus' work locally and globally.
Year 5	Children study the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and make links with Confirmation. They explore how the Spirit helps Christians to be disciples and witnesses.
Year 6	Children deepen their understanding of the Resurrection and the Trinity. They explore how saints and Christians today bear witness to their faith through words, choices and service.

Dialogue and Encounter

Summer 2: Christian dialogue, other religions and worldviews, and working together for the common good.

Year group	Coverage
Reception	Children learn to listen respectfully, notice similarities and differences and be a good neighbour. They encounter Christianity as a global faith and begin to learn about other religious and cultural traditions.
Year 1	Children learn about local Christian communities and ways Christians work together. They encounter Judaism as the faith in which Jesus was born and lived.
Year 2	Children explore the Jewish roots of Christianity and aspects of Jewish belief and practice. They learn that respectful dialogue begins with listening and understanding people on their own terms.
Year 3	Children encounter Islam, including beliefs and practices that shape the lives of Muslims in Britain. They make simple links between belief, worship and daily life.
Year 4	Children deepen their understanding of Islam, including the Five Pillars. They explore why religious practices matter to believers and how people of faith contribute to the common good.
Year 5	Children study Judaism in greater depth, including the Tanakh and the Shema. They consider how Scripture, belief and practice shape Jewish life.
Year 6	Children encounter a Dharmic religion or pathway and learn to define the term worldview. They explore how Christians work with people of different religious and non-religious worldviews for the common good.