HIGH LITTLETON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL HUMANISM KEY KNOWLEDGE 2023-2024

Religion	Theme	Content	Year	Term
Humanism		 Be familiar with the terms 'Humanist' and 'atheist'. Know that of utmost importance for a Humanist is what human beings have achieved and can achieve as individuals and together to improve life for everyone and look after the world. Know that many Humanists are 'atheists'; they do not believe in a deity or deities. Know how a Humanist family might celebrate the birth of a child and/or the naming of a baby. Be able to recognise the 'happy human' as a symbol of Humanism (showing that the human being and the potential of human activity to shape our world are at the centre of what Humanists believe). 	Y2	T6
		 Be familiar with the concepts 'material world' and 'secular'. Know that 'secular' means 'concerned with the material world' and 'not concerned with religion'. Be able to tell another person what is meant by 'Humanist' and 'atheist'. Have had the opportunity to talk with members of a Humanist family. Know that Humanists look for truth as it is known and accessible through science, reason and the experience of human beings of the ever-changing material world. Know that Humanists primarily make decisions about right and wrong based on what is perceived to bring justice, happiness and peace to individuals, communities and societies. They should know that Humanists do not believe that knowledge of right and wrong comes from a deity or deities or that good deeds or wrong-doing will be judged and/or punished by a god or gods. Be familiar with what the 'happy human' symbol means to Humanists. 	Y4	T6
		 Be familiar with the term 'agnostic' and its two related meanings – 1) a person who holds that nothing is known or can be known about anything beyond the material world and 2) a person who does not know whether a god, gods or anything beyond the material world exists. They should know that some Humanists are agnostic. Be able to say why Humanism is a life stance but not a religion. Know how secular Humanists regard life and death. They should know that the 	Y6	T6

	 focus of their attention is on what can be achieved during this life in this world and that they hold that death is the end of life. Know how Humanists might celebrate marriage or conduct an event to mark the death of someone close to them. Be able to say how these differ from a religious ceremony and why. Be able to name two prominent Humanist scientists of the modern period and say something about their lives and contribution to our understanding of the world, e.g. Marie Curie, Albert Einstein, Helen Caldicott. Know that the Humanist perspective informs music, song, poetry, literature and the visual arts and be able to refer to at least one example, e.g. John Lennon's Imagine. Be aware of the work of the British Humanist Association (BHA) in promoting understanding of Humanism. 			
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