

A guide to how we teach RE at St Mary's 2026-27

Our Core Purpose

Religion and Worldviews gives pupils a safe, structured space to ask big, challenging questions about:

- **Meaning & Purpose:** Why are we here? What gives life meaning?
- **Beliefs & Ultimate Reality:** What do people believe about God, creation, and existence?
- **Ethics & Morality:** How do we decide what is right and wrong?
- **Human Identity:** What does it mean to be human?

What This Means in the Classroom

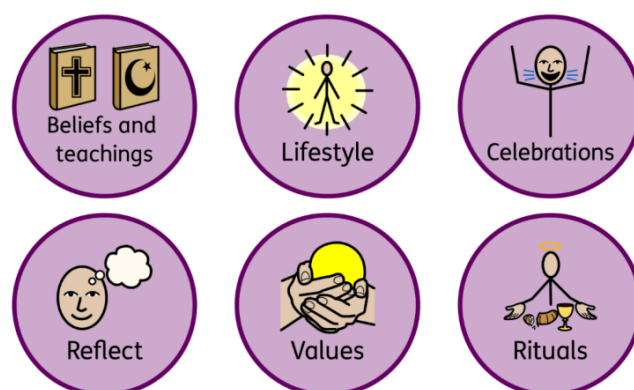
What We Aim to Build	How We Teach It
Systematic Knowledge	Provide accurate, structured learning about core beliefs, practices and worldviews without oversimplifying.
Source Skills	Teach pupils how to interpret and evaluate primary texts, lived examples and traditions.
Respectful Dialogue	Model and enforce ground rules for respectful discussion, enabling pupils to hold differing views without conflict.

Threshold Concepts

We base our teaching around 6 Threshold Concepts or “Big Ideas” that come up repeatedly in our RE learning.

Over time, the children make links and connections between their learning progressively through each year and develop schema.

The Threshold Concepts are constantly referred to by teachers and visual posters are on display in classrooms so that children can see the concepts they are learning about.



Threshold Concepts

Personal Identity	Encourage pupils to reflect on their own worldview, values and experiences alongside those of others.	
<p><u>Our R.E curriculum teaches a range of faiths:</u></p> <p>EYFS: (Early Learning Goals)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand- ing The World • Past and Present • People, Culture and Communities • The Natural World <p>KS1: Christianity, Judaism, Thematic</p> <p>KS2: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hindu Dharma, Sikhi, Paganism and Humanism</p> <p>Planning is pulled from three main syllabus’:</p> <p>Understanding Christianity, Oak Academy and Somerset Agreed Syllabus</p>		

RW lessons

Our RW curriculum is planned and sequenced so that new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before. Our detailed long-term overview includes prior knowledge children should know, key vocabulary and key milestones ([progression can be found here](#)).

RW is taught weekly from EYFS to Year 6. Each lesson starts with a recall to recap prior, essential knowledge. Lessons are planned using three main syllabus’: Understanding Christianity, Oak Academy and Somerset Agreed Syllabus. In each lesson, work planned will require a pupil response for a task that has been sent; however, there is an exception for adapted learning through scaffolds to support low attaining learners. Lessons should also challenge our most able learners through planned, intentional challenge questions to stretch learning. At the end of each lesson, an exit ticket will be used as a formative assessment tool.

In KS2 work from lessons is recorded in RE books. A range of activities take place from watching videos to drama activities to written exercises. In KS1 & EYFS whole class floor books are used and children's thoughts and opinions are shared alongside photographic evidence and written activities. Photos are shared with parents via Seesaw. In all recorded work, Threshold Concept pictures or heading will be visible at the top of the page.

Assessment

Children's work is marked effectively following the school marking policy. Where needed areas for growth or improvements are made.

At the end of each term POP tasks are completed to demonstrate children's understanding of the topic.

Quadrant Quizzes (1 per term) provide opportunities for children to embed understanding of specific vocabulary or characteristics of a particular religion.

[RE Progression](#)