



Y6 Religious Education – Why are symbols and icons and statues important gestures in religious worship?

Key Concept – Belief Systems



Essential Knowledge

In what ways can art be used within worship or as an aid to prayer?

Art can be seen in stained glass windows, religious paintings, statues, calligraphy, mandalas and decorated holy books. Different colours can represent different things for each religion, such as:

- Gold for holiness and heaven (Christianity)
- Blue for peace and the divine (Judaism, Hinduism)
- Green for paradise and life (Islam)
- White for purity and new beginnings (Christianity, Buddhism)
- Red for energy, power, or sacrifice (Hinduism, Christianity)

Art helps worshippers to focus, reflect and feel spiritually connected.

Why are symbols, icons and statues

Icons and symbols can remind people of values, stories, or spiritual truths. They help believers focus during prayer or meditation. They can represent deeper meanings (e.g., the cross = Jesus' sacrifice). They are often used in rituals (e.g., lighting candles before a statue). Some faiths (like Islam and Judaism) do not use statues to avoid creating images of God but still use symbols and patterns.

How can music be used as an aid to worship?

Different religions use music in different ways. It can be used to express feelings and tell stories.

Key Vocabulary

design	a decorative pattern / a drawing produced to show
express	to show something
faith	belief in something
symbol	a thing that represents or stands for something else
icon	a person or thing regarded as a representative symbol
chant	a repeated rhythmic phrase
hymn	a religious song to give praise to god

Aspirational Knowledge

Art is used to convey emotions about religion, to represent how faith inspires and to respond to a challenge or faith story.





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Key Knowledge
<u>How can art help people worship?</u> Pictures and Symbols – Help people think about their faith. Colour and Design – Can make a place feel peaceful or special. Storytelling – Art can show stories from holy books. Focus and Feeling – Looking at art can help people feel calm and pray. Thankfulness – Making or seeing beautiful art can help people say thank you to God or the world.
<u>Why are symbols important in religion?</u> Symbols are pictures, signs, or objects that have a special meaning in a religion. They help people remember their beliefs, stories, and feelings about God or faith.
<u>How does music help people worship?</u> Music helps people worship by: • Helping them pray and feel close to God • Helping them show feelings • Helping them remember important things

Key Vocabulary		
symbol		a thing that stands for something else
chant		a repeated regular saying
design		a decorative pattern
faith		belief in something



Y6 Religious Education – What does it mean to be a Buddhist?



Key Concept – Belief Systems

Essential Knowledge

What are the origins of Buddhism?

Buddhism began over 2,500 years ago in a country that is now called India. Buddhism was started by a man named Siddhartha Gautama. He was a prince who lived a very rich and comfortable life. But one day, he saw people who were sick, old, and suffering, and it made him think deeply about life.

Siddhartha left his palace to find out how to end suffering. He tried many ways of living and thinking. After a long time of meditating under a tree, he finally found the answers he was looking for.

What is the Eightfold Path?

The Eightfold Path is a set of 8 rules or steps that the Buddha taught: **Right Understanding, Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Action, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness and Right Concentration.**

How does Buddha's teaching continue?

The Buddha's teachings continue through the way people live, worship, meditate, and help others—all around the world.

Key Vocabulary

Buddhism	a religion founded by Siddhartha Gautama in the 5 th century
Buddha	the name given to the founder of the Buddhist religion
suffering	undergoing pain, distress or hardship
karma	the sum of your actions, good or bad luck
Bodhi Tree	ancient fig tree where Buddha gained enlightenment
Dalai Lama	spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists
nirvana	a state to be in when you have no pain or suffering
Eightfold Path	a way of life followed by Buddhists
Wesak	Buddhist celebration of the birth of Buddha
meditate	focus your mind for a period, in silence or with chanting, for spiritual, religious or relaxation purposes
enlightened	having a greater knowledge or understanding of a subject or situation
mindfulness	a mental state achieved by focussing your awareness on the present moment

Aspirational Knowledge

Siddhartha's enlightenment came in the form of the Four Noble Truths:

- Being greedy and wanting things can't make you happy.
- You can be content without having everything you want.
- You must learn this through practice.
- Peace of mind comes when you are content with having just enough – not too much, not too little.



Y6 Religious Education – What does it mean to be a Buddhist?

Key Concept – Belief Systems



Key Knowledge

How did Buddhism start?

Buddhism started over 2,500 years ago in a place that is now called India. It was started by a man named Siddhartha Gautama.

He was a prince had a rich and easy life. But one day, he saw people who were sick, old and in pain. This made him very sad. He wanted to find out why people suffer. Siddhartha left his palace and family. He travelled and tried many ways of living. One day, he sat under a tree and meditated (thought deeply and quietly). After a long time, he found the answers. He became known as the Buddha, which means "the Wise One" or "Awakened One."

What is the Eightfold Path?

The Eightfold Path is a special guide in Buddhism. It helps people live a good and peaceful life. It has 8 steps – like stepping stones to help you be kind, calm and wise.

How does Buddha still teach us today?

People read his stories, follow his ideas and they meditate to feel calm and peaceful
Buddha teaches us how to live a good life- by being kind, calm, and wise.



Key Vocabulary

Buddha



the name given to the founder of the Buddhist religion

suffering



undergoing pain, distress or hardship

meditate



focus your mind for a period of time

Eightfold Path



a way of life followed by Buddhists

Dalai Lama



spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists

Bohdi Tree



ancient fig tree where Buddha gained enlightenment



Y6 Religious Education – Inspirational leaders within Christianity and Islam



Key Concept – Special People

Essential Knowledge

Why do Christians think Jesus is inspirational?

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He came to Earth to teach about love and fellowship. He represents the person that all Christians must strive to be.

Why is the Prophet Muhammad inspirational to Muslims?

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was known for his compassion and mercy towards all living beings. He treated people with kindness, regardless of their social status or beliefs. His caring nature extended to animals as well, emphasizing the importance of showing compassion to all of Allah's creation.

What do stories tell us about the inspirational figures in both Christianity and Islam?

Parables are stories that have a moral. Each one teaches Christians about different values such as kindness, resilience, obedience and love. The “Woman who threw rubbish” is an Islamic story which is significant as it is an example of the Prophet’s patience, forgiveness and compassion, even towards those who different treat him kindly.



Key Vocabulary

Christianity	the religion based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ, or its beliefs and practices
Islam	a religion that is based on the Qur'an and the teachings of the prophet Muhammad (PBUH)
inspiration	a feeling of enthusiasm you get from someone or something, which gives you new and creative ideas
follower	someone who believes in a particular person or set of ideas
Jesus	Jesus or Jesus Christ is the name of the man, who Christians believe was the son of god, and whose teachings are the basis of Christianity.
leader	someone whom other people will follow
miracle	an unusual and mysterious event that is thought to have been caused by a god because it does not follow the <u>usual</u> laws of nature
parable	a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the gospels

Aspirational Knowledge

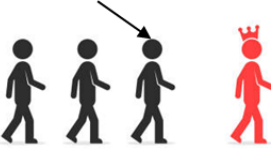
Jesus welcomed everyone - even outcasts. He often helped people who others ignored, like tax collectors, lepers, and those in poverty. He showed that every person has value. Even before he became a prophet, Muhammad helped solve conflicts peacefully and defended the rights of the poor and weak in Meccan society. Billions of people today still try to follow the teachings of Jesus and Muhammad in how they treat others and live their lives.



Y6 Religious Education – Inspirational leaders within Christianity and Islam



Key Concept – Special People

Key Knowledge	Key Vocabulary
<u>Why do Christians think Jesus is inspirational?</u> Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He came to Earth to teach about love and fellowship. He represents the person that all Christians must strive to be.	leader  someone other people follow
<u>Why is the Prophet Muhammad inspirational to Muslims?</u> Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was known for his kindness to all living beings. He treated people with kindness, regardless of their social status or beliefs. His caring nature extended to animals as well, emphasizing the importance of showing compassion to all of Allah's creation.	follower  someone who believes in a particular person
<u>What do stories tell us about the inspirational Jesus and the Prophet Muhammad?</u> Parables are stories that have a moral. Each one teaches Christians about different values such as kindness, resilience, obedience and love.	inspiration  a feeling of excitement you get from something, which gives you new ideas
Jesus	 Jesus or Jesus Christ is the name of the man, who Christians believe was the son of god
Muhammad	 the greatest teacher within Islam was Muhammad (PBUH)



Y6 Religious Education – What is Christmas for?

Key Concept – Festivals, Celebrations and Rituals



Essential Knowledge

How do different countries celebrate Christmas?

United Kingdom - People give gifts, send cards, and decorate with lights. Families eat roast dinner (often with turkey). Children hang stockings for Father Christmas. Christmas Day is on 25th December.

Germany - Families use an Advent wreath with candles. Many towns have Christmas markets. Children get small gifts on 6th December (St Nicholas Day). They eat gingerbread and special cookies.

Italy - Gifts are often opened on 6th January (Epiphany). A kind witch called La Befana brings sweets to children. Families enjoy big meals and go to church. Nativity scenes are very popular.

How do different groups show what Christmas means?

Different groups show what Christmas means by: giving, celebrating Jesus, spending time together, sharing joy and kindness.

What are the links between Pagan celebrations and Christmas?

Some Christmas traditions come from old Pagan winter festivals, like decorating with trees and holly, burning Yule logs, celebrating during the darkest time of year and eating and being together. These were later mixed with Christian ideas about the birth of Jesus.

Key Vocabulary

Christmas	a Christian festival that celebrates the birth of Jesus
gratitude	being thankful
tradition	the passing on of ways of thinking and acting
carol	a type of religious song associated with Christmas
commercialism	a focus on making money
charity	giving help to those in need
secular	not connected with religion

Aspirational Knowledge

Some people argue that the true meaning of Christmas has now been lost because of commercialisation and the increase in secular traditions, whereas other people disagree and think the true message of Christmas is still being remembered. There are both religious and secular Christmas traditions including: giving Christmas cards, singing carols, decorating a tree, watching Christmas films and eating Christmas dinner.





Y6 Religious Education – What is Christmas for?

Key Concept – Festivals, Celebrations and Rituals



<u>Key Knowledge</u>	
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<u>Key Vocabulary</u>		
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charity		giving help to those in need



Y6 Religious Education – Why is respect important within communities?



Key Concept – Belief Systems

Essential Knowledge

What are the belief systems in Peterborough?

There are a variety of religious and nonreligious communities in Peterborough. Some examples of the religious communities in Peterborough are Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Hinduism.

What does respect look like within religious communities?

Different religious communities show respect in different ways. Respect within faiths can involve:

- Listening when others speak or pray.
- Using special words carefully (e.g., “Allah,” “Reverend,” “Guru”).
- Treating sacred places and objects with care (e.g., removing shoes, washing hands).

How do religious communities show respect to the wider community?

Interfaith events bring different faith leaders together to share similarities and celebrate diversity. Communities work side by side on practical projects such as food banks, environmental clean-ups, and charity events are often interfaith collaborations. Local faith groups in Peterborough (like mosques, churches, temples and the cathedral) join interfaith forums, showing unity and service for the whole city.

Why is it important to show respect for everybody's beliefs?

Religion helps people find comfort, purpose, identity and a sense of belonging. Learning about diverse beliefs builds empathy and social harmony, reducing prejudice and misunderstandings. Teaching respect prepares children for life in a multi-faith, multi-belief Britain and supports values like tolerance, peace, and community cohesion.

Key Vocabulary

acceptance	agreeing that someone should be included in a group; understanding and appreciating what others bring to our lives
community	the people living in one area
diversity	the wide variety of something; people may be different in many ways, including race or ethnicity, age, disabilities, language, culture, appearance, or religion
respect	the feeling you show when you accept that different or cultures are different from your own and behave towards them in a way that would not cause offence
sensitivity	an ability to understand what other people need, being helpful and kind to them
tolerance	willingness to accept behaviour and beliefs that are different from your own although you might not agree with or approve of them
atheism	the lack of belief in any god or goddess

Aspirational Knowledge

Christianity and Islam account for half the population of the entire world. The religious makeup of Peterborough: 46.3% Christian, 32.5% No religion, 12.2% Muslim, 1.8% Hindu, 0.6% Sikh and 0.3% Buddhist. Peterborough has a higher percentage of Muslims compared to England as a whole.



Y6 Religious Education – Why is respect important within communities?



Key Concept – Belief Systems

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Why is it important to show respect for everybody’s beliefs?

People have different beliefs about God, the world, and how to live.

These beliefs are part of who they are. It’s important to show respect to everyone, even if they believe different things. Showing respect means being kind, listening and accepting. Everyone deserves respect, no matter what they believe.

Key Vocabulary

community



the people living in one area

diversity



the wide variety of something

mosque



the Muslim place of worship

Makkah



the birthplace of Muhammad (PBUH)

church



the Christian place of worship

