



Year 7 Understanding Religion and World Views



West Kirby
Grammar School

Learning about this topic is important because you will be introduced to Religious Education and explore how beliefs, values and experiences shape the way people see the world. You will investigate what is meant by a worldview, consider the similarities and differences between religious and non-religious perspectives, and learn how to study religion fairly and respectfully. This unit provides the foundation for all future learning in Religious Education

This builds on: Key Stage Two World Religions,

This leads to: Year 7 – Leaders, World Church

We will learn:

- What Religious Education is and why it is important to study religion and worldviews.
- What a worldview is and how it is shaped by family, culture, beliefs and experiences.
- What religion is and whether all religions are the same.
- The similarities and differences between religious and non-religious worldviews.
- How people can have different perspectives on the same issue.
- How to study religion fairly, respectfully and critically

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Understanding and using key RE concepts and vocabulary.
- Explaining different religious and non-religious worldviews (Theology and Human & Social Sciences).
- Comparing similarities and differences between beliefs and perspectives.
- Asking thoughtful questions about belief, meaning and identity (Philosophy).
- Analysing different viewpoints and recognising bias.
- Reflecting on how personal experiences and values shape worldviews (Personal Knowledge).
- Developing respectful discussion and debate skills.

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Religion, worldview, belief, values, identity, culture, tradition, perspective, community, faith, atheist, agnostic, humanist, diversity, bias, interpretation, respect.

You could learn more about this topic by:

Reading: *What Do We Mean by Religion?* by Brian Davies

- *The Little Book of Humanism* by Alice Roberts and Andrew Copson
- *The Religions Book* (DK Publishing)

Watch

- BBC Bitesize: What is Religion?
- BBC Teach: Understanding Worldview



Your teacher will assess your knowledge and understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and providing feedback in a variety of ways. Assessment will include knowledge retrieval quizzes and short knowledge tests with multiple-choice, outline and recall questions, as well as longer responses that require explanation and development. You will compare religious and non-religious worldviews, analyse different perspectives, and take part in class discussions about belief, identity and values. Evaluation questions will require you to respond to a stimulus quote or piece of research, using evidence to support and justify your judgements.



Year 7 Festivals of Light

Learning about this topic is important because you will explore why festivals are important within religious communities and how they help believers remember significant events, express their beliefs and strengthen their sense of identity and belonging. You will investigate festivals of light in Judaism, Hinduism and Christianity, discovering the meanings behind Hanukkah, Diwali, Advent and Christmas, and consider why these celebrations remain important today.

This builds on: Key Stage two world religions, Y7 Religion and World views

This leads to: Year 7 – World Church

We will learn:

- What festivals are and why they are important in religious traditions.
- How festivals connect believers with important events from the past.
- Why light is an important symbol in many religions.
- The origins and significance of Hanukkah in Judaism.
- The origins and significance of Diwali in Hinduism.
- The meaning of Advent and Christmas for Christians today.
- How festivals continue to shape religious identity and community life.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Explaining the meaning and significance of religious festivals (Theology).
- Investigating how religious beliefs are expressed through celebrations and traditions (Human & Social Sciences).
- Comparing similarities and differences between religious festivals.
- Interpreting religious stories, symbols and traditions.
- Exploring philosophical questions about remembrance, identity and belonging (Philosophy).
- Reflecting on the importance of celebrations and traditions in our own lives (Personal Knowledge).

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Festival, celebration, tradition, remembrance, identity, symbolism, light, Hanukkah, menorah, miracle, Diwali, Rama, Lakshmi, Advent, Nativity, Christmas, incarnation, community, worship.

You could learn more about this topic by:

Reading:

Non-fiction: World Religions: The Great Faiths Explored & Explained by John Bowker

Celebrations and Festivals Around the World by Claire Grace

The Religions Book (DK Publishing)

Watch: BBC Bitesize: Hanukkah

BBC Teach: Diwali

BBC Bitesize: Advent and Christmas

BBC Teach: Festivals of Light



Your teacher will assess your knowledge and understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and providing feedback in a variety of ways. Assessment will include knowledge retrieval quizzes and short knowledge tests with multiple-choice, outline and recall questions, as well as longer responses that require explanation and development. You will analyse religious stories, symbols and traditions, compare the beliefs and practices associated with different festivals, and take part in class discussions about the importance of celebrations and identity. Evaluation questions will require you to respond to a stimulus quote or piece of research, using evidence to support and justify your judgements.



Year 7 Leaders



West Kirby
Grammar School

Learning about this topic is important because you will explore key leaders and founders from Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Sikhism. You will investigate how individuals such as Abraham, Moses, Muhammad, Jesus and Guru Nanak influenced religious beliefs and communities, and consider what makes a leader inspiring and influential. Understanding these figures helps us to see how religion has shaped cultures, values and societies throughout history and today.

This builds on: Key Stage two world religions, Y7 Leaders, Y7 Festivals

This leads to: Year 7 – World Church

We will learn:

- Why Abraham is important in Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
- How Moses demonstrated leadership and guided the Israelites.
- How Muhammad shaped Islamic beliefs and practices.
- Why Christians continue to follow the teachings of Jesus.
- How Guru Nanak challenged inequality and inspired Sikhism.
- What qualities make a religious leader influential and enduring.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Explaining the significance of key religious leaders and founders (Theology).
- Investigating how beliefs influence individuals and communities (Human & Social Sciences).
- Comparing the teachings, actions and influence of different religious figures.
- Interpreting religious stories and sources to understand meaning and purpose.
- Exploring philosophical questions about leadership, authority and influence (Philosophy).
- Reflecting on the qualities of effective leaders and role models (Personal Knowledge).

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Abraham, covenant, Moses, Exodus, prophet, Muhammad, revelation, Qur'an, Jesus, disciple, Messiah, Guru Nanak, equality, leadership, authority, founder, influence, role model.

You could learn more about this topic by:

Reading:

Non-fiction: World Religions: The Great Faiths Explored & Explained by John Bowker

Fiction: Theo's Odyssey by Catherine Clement

Watch: The Covenant - The Jewish Museum London



Your teacher will assess your knowledge and understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and providing feedback in a variety of ways. Assessment will include knowledge retrieval quizzes and short knowledge tests with multiple-choice, outline and recall questions, as well as longer responses that require explanation and development. You will analyse religious stories and sources, compare the beliefs and influence of different leaders, and take part in class discussions about leadership and authority. Evaluation questions will require you to respond to a stimulus quote or piece of research, using evidence to support and justify your judgements.



Year 7 How and why did Christianity become a global religion?



West Kirby
Grammar School

Learning about this topic is important because you will explore how Christianity grew from a small group of followers in the Roman Empire into one of the world's largest religions. You will investigate the role of key events, beliefs, and people in the spread of Christianity and consider how Christianity has developed into a diverse global faith. This helps us understand how religions change, grow and influence societies around the world.

This builds on: Key Stage two world religions, Y7 Leaders, Y7 Festivals

This leads to: The life and impact of Jesus.

We will learn:

- How Pentecost and the work of the Early Church helped Christianity spread.
- How inclusion and diversity were important in the growth of the early Christian community.
- How Christianity became established within the Roman Empire.
- How major Christian traditions developed.
- How Christianity spread across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.
- Why Christianity continues to be a global religion today.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Explaining the significance of key religious events and beliefs (Theology).
- Investigating how beliefs influence individuals and communities (Human & Social Sciences).
- Using historical evidence to understand religious change and continuity.
- Comparing different Christian traditions and practices.
- Analysing questions about inclusion, identity and belonging (Philosophy).
- Reflecting on the role of communities in shaping beliefs and values (Personal Knowledge)

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Pentecost, Holy Spirit, disciples, apostle, missionary, inclusion, diversity, persecution, conversion, Constantine, Roman Empire, Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, denomination, mission, evangelism,

You could learn more about this topic by:

Reading: Christianity: A Very Short Introduction by Linda Woodhead
The Story of Christianity by Tim Dowley
Watch: BBC Bitesize: Early Christianity
BBC Teach: The Spread of Christianity
Bible Project videos on Acts and the Early Church



Your teacher will assess your knowledge and understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and providing feedback in a variety of ways. Assessment will include knowledge retrieval quizzes and short knowledge tests with multiple-choice, outline and recall questions, as well as longer responses that require explanation and development. You will also analyse and interpret sources, compare Christian beliefs, practices and historical developments, and take part in class discussions. Evaluation questions will require you to respond to a stimulus quote or piece of research, using evidence to support and justify your judgements.



Year 7 Buddhism

Learning about this topic is important because you will explore the life of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism, and discover how his search for truth led to the development of one of the world's major religions. You will investigate key Buddhist beliefs and teachings, consider how Buddhists live their lives today, and explore how Buddhism spread from India across the world.

This builds on: Key Stage two world religions, Y7 Leaders, Y7 Festivals

This leads to: Year 8 Covenant

We will learn:

- About the life of Siddhartha Gautama and how he became the Buddha.
- How Buddhists understand the Buddha and learn through Buddhist stories and Jataka Tales.
- Key Buddhist teachings about suffering, impermanence and the nature of existence.
- How Buddhist beliefs influence daily life and decision-making.
- The Noble Eightfold Path and the Buddhist journey towards enlightenment.
- How Buddhism spread from India to become a global religion.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Explaining Buddhist beliefs, teachings and practices (Theology).
- Interpreting stories and religious teachings to understand meaning and purpose.
- Investigating how beliefs influence behaviour and ways of life (Human & Social Sciences).
- Exploring philosophical questions about suffering, happiness and the meaning of life (Philosophy).
- Comparing different Buddhist beliefs and practices.
- Reflecting on personal values, choices and responsibilities (Personal Knowledge).

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Siddhartha Gautama, Buddha, enlightenment, Four Sights, Dharma, Sangha, Three Refuges, Four Noble Truths, Noble Eightfold Path

You could learn more about this topic by:

Read: Buddhism for Beginners by Thubten Chodron
What is Buddhism? by Chris Pauling
Watch: BBC Bitesize: Buddhism
BBC Teach: The Life of the Buddha
Animated Jataka Tales



Your teacher will assess your knowledge and understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and providing feedback in a variety of ways. Assessment will include knowledge retrieval quizzes and short knowledge tests with multiple-choice, outline and recall questions, as well as longer responses that require explanation and development. You will also interpret Buddhist stories and teachings, compare beliefs and practices, and take part in class discussions about ethical and philosophical questions. Evaluation questions will require you to respond to a stimulus quote or piece of research, using evidence to support and justify your judgements.