

# Teaching about other Faiths and Cultures:

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Religious Education is at the heart of our school. We follow a religious education programme which aims to strengthen our Catholic faith.

As part of our Religious Education and broader curriculum provision, our children have a breadth of opportunities to learn about other faiths and cultures. Teaching about other religions is important because:

Learning about other religions and cultures is one of the ways in which we fulfil our call to love our neighbour. As the Church says, "The love for all men and women is necessarily also a love for their culture. Catholic schools are, by their very vocation, intercultural." (Congregation for Catholic Education p61).

The Church states that schools "try to understand better the religion of one's neighbours, and to experience something of their religious life and culture." (Catholic Bishops' Conference p3).

The Church suggests that schools "find ways in which pupils can learn to engage in dialogue and to develop an attitude of respect for religious diversity. This will necessitate the inclusion of a broader study of both Christianity and of other world faiths in the Religious Education syllabus." (Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, 1997)

It prepares our children for life in modern Britain, giving them an understanding of the beliefs of others.

This year, we have ensured that there has been a broad and balanced approach to teaching of other faiths and cultures in the following curriculum and enrichment opportunities:



## Whole School

- **Festivals of Light Project:** Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity.
- **Key Strings** – Music around the world workshops
- **Religious Education planning** – opportunities to include other faiths
- **International Week** – Countries of the World
- **Teaching of British Values**, e.g. Our Union Jack project
- **Philosophy Fortnight** – Global Issues
- **Global Learning** – membership of CDEC, RE today publications, P4C SAPRE award,
- **British Values** – through our embedding of British values throughout our curriculum, ethos and enrichment opportunities.
- **Visiting Authors** – Michael Leach’s work with different tribes in South America and Africa
- **MFL** – Learning about other cultures through languages



## EYFS

- Divali – Hindu festival of Light
- Curriculum Topic – Africa, Australia, Asia,
- Chinese New Year Celebrations - Food tasting, visitors, art, etc
- Arctic explorers day – Inuit people
- Topic – Creation stories from other cultures
- Our families – celebrating our diversity



## Key Stage One:

- Curriculum topic – India: gods, goddesses, festivals, food and culture
- Curriculum topic – Around the world
- Visitors: Indian Dance Company
- Multicultural stories in Literacy and P4C
- Hanukah – Jewish Festival of Light



## Lower Key Stage Two:

- Chinese New Year – lanterns of light
- Sacred words from different faiths - RE
- Sacred books from different faith - RE
- Myths and Legends from different cultures
- Multicultural stories from around the world – P4C
- Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece topics



## Upper Key Stage Two:

- What's it like in South America? – learning about Yanomamo tribe
- Art – The art of the Kenyan Masai people
- Maths – The history of the Mandala
- Stories from other cultures – The Kapok Tree, The Three Questions, P4C stimuli – The Indian boatman,
- RE topic – People of other faith
- Heartstone Odyssey – A project of change
- British History – settlements of the Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasion
- Loi Krathong – Thai Festival of Light



## Next Steps:

To continue to improve our provision for teaching of other faiths and cultures, these are our next steps for 2017-2018:

1. Within the RE planning, identify topics and themes where there are opportunities to integrate teaching and learning linked to faiths other than Christianity.
2. Plan for extended termly opportunities to teach about other faiths, e.g. Autumn term – How do different people around the world pray? Link to global learning. Spring Term – places of worship etc
3. Continue to develop International Day/Week opportunities to make links with P4C and/or RE.



