



Religious Education Long-Term Plan 2026-2027

St James Church of England Primary School

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term																					
Nursery	2-3 years: Talks about their name, family, and who they live with. Enjoys family routines, asks simple questions about family, and begins to notice changes over time. 3-4 years: Talks confidently about themselves and their family, including family roles and jobs. Begins to recognise what makes them unique and notices similarities and differences between themselves, friends, and family.	2-3 years: Begins to talk about their family, experiences, and beliefs. Enjoys joining in with family routines and customs and recognises special events and celebrations. 3-4 years: Develops an understanding that people may have different beliefs and celebrations. Understands that Christmas and Easter are special celebrations for some people and recognises that not everyone celebrates them.	2-3 Years Shows an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them, talking about their family and friends. They begin to notice and talk about similarities and differences between themselves and others, recognising that families and people can be different. 3-4 Years Develops positive attitudes towards differences between people and shows curiosity about the world around them. They talk about things they have observed in different places and comment on or ask questions about familiar places, people, families, cultures and ways of life.																					
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Year 3

3.6 Why do many people celebrate and give thanks at Harvest time?

Th	What does the Bible say about giving thanks for the Harvest?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Judaism
Ph	What does being thankful mean to you?	
HSS	Why is Harvest celebrated by people of faith and those with no faith?	

3.1 What is the role of a faith leader who has been called by God?

Th	How does God speak to people?	Progressive Study Christianity Islam Judaism
Ph	What is a vocation?	
HSS	What sort of tasks do people do in response to being called by God?	

3.2 Why do Christians believe that Jesus was Emmanuel, God with us?

Th	What do Christians believe is the reason God sent Jesus to be present on earth?	Progressive Study Christianity Encounter Non-religious World Views
Ph	How is it possible for God to be present on earth?	
HSS	In what ways do Christians believe they can be the presence of Jesus in the world today?	

Year 4

4.6 Where and when do some people of faith pray?

Th	What do Holy Books say about praying?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism
Ph	What questions would you like to ask about prayer?	
HSS	How does a belief in the power of prayer impact the life of a person of faith?	

4.2 Why is light an important symbol in many World Faiths?

3.3 How did/does Jesus change lives?

Th	Why did/does Jesus change lives?	Progressive Study Christianity
Ph	What does it mean to be changed?	
HSS	How is a person's behaviour different when Jesus has changed their lives?	

3.4 Is the cross a symbol of sadness or joy?

Th	Why is the cross such an important symbol for Christians?	Progressive Study Christianity Encounter Non-religious World Views
Ph	Why does the way in which you view an event affect your feelings about it?	
HSS	In what ways do Christian celebrations reveal the sadness and joy of Easter?	

4.3 Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God?

Th	How do the actions of Jesus show that he is the Son of God?	Progressive Study Christianity Judaism
Ph	What issues/behaviour would make you stand up against people in authority?	
HSS	In what ways does keeping the Sabbath affect the lives of Jews and Christians?	

4.4 Easter: A story of betrayal or trust?

3.5 Is the 'golden rule' agreed by everyone?

Th	What is the source of the rules followed by people of faith?	Progressive Study Christianity Islam Encounter Humanism Buddhism Sikhi
Ph	What would happen if there were no rules for people to follow?	
HSS	How does following particular rules affect people's lives?	

4.5 What is the purpose of sacred places or buildings?

Th	Why do people build special buildings like Churches or Temples to pray in?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism Encounter Sikhi Non-religious World Views
Ph	Does a building have a purpose because it is a building or because of what happens there?	
HSS	What is it that people do in sacred buildings/places that indicates the significance of that space?	

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HSS	In what ways do the actions of Christians show they believe that they are being the light of Jesus in the world today?																																												
Th	How are the events of the Easter story connected to the Christian beliefs about trust and forgiveness?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma, Islam Judaism																																											
Ph	Who thinks the value of forgiveness is important? Why?																																												
HSS	How does the belief that the value of forgiveness is important, impact on the lives of people with faith?																																												
Year 5	5.1 Why are there several Holy Books and not just one? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>Who gives a sacred text its authority?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>Why is the Bible a best seller?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>What is the connection between the content of the Holy Book and the daily life of the believer?</td></tr></table> 5.2 How does the birth of Jesus fit into God's Big Story? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>Why are the stories in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke different/similar?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>Why does a person's opinion affect the way in which they tell a story?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>Which of the many celebrations reflect the true meaning of Christmas?</td></tr></table>	Th	Who gives a sacred text its authority?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism	Ph	Why is the Bible a best seller?	HSS	What is the connection between the content of the Holy Book and the daily life of the believer?	Th	Why are the stories in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke different/similar?	Progressive Study Christianity	Ph	Why does a person's opinion affect the way in which they tell a story?	HSS	Which of the many celebrations reflect the true meaning of Christmas?	5.3 Why do Christians believe Jesus was a great teacher? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>How do the stories that Jesus told, help us to understand Christian beliefs?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>What is a parable?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>How do the teachings of Jesus impact on the lives of his followers today?</td></tr></table> 5.4 Why do Christians believe that Easter is a celebration of victory? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>What evidence is there that the events of Easter are a victory?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>Do you have to win to be victorious?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>How does the belief in Jesus' victory affect the lives of Christians today?</td></tr></table>	Th	How do the stories that Jesus told, help us to understand Christian beliefs?	Progressive Study Christianity	Ph	What is a parable?	HSS	How do the teachings of Jesus impact on the lives of his followers today?	Th	What evidence is there that the events of Easter are a victory?	Progressive Study Christianity	Ph	Do you have to win to be victorious?	HSS	How does the belief in Jesus' victory affect the lives of Christians today?	5.5 Did she make the right choice? Why? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>What are the connections between the choices made and the faith of the women?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Judaism</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>When a choice is difficult how do you decide?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>How does context affect choices in behaviour?</td></tr></table> 5.6 Is death an ending or a beginning? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>Why are there diverse beliefs across World Faiths and Views as to what happens when we die?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>What does it mean when someone or something dies?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>What do funerals and end of life rituals tell us about a person's life and beliefs?</td></tr></table>	Th	What are the connections between the choices made and the faith of the women?	Progressive Study Christianity Judaism	Ph	When a choice is difficult how do you decide?	HSS	How does context affect choices in behaviour?	Th	Why are there diverse beliefs across World Faiths and Views as to what happens when we die?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam	Ph	What does it mean when someone or something dies?	HSS	What do funerals and end of life rituals tell us about a person's life and beliefs?
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Year 6	6.1 How do promises of commitment shape the lives of those who make them? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>What are the connections between the promises of commitment made by people of faith and sacred stories?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Islam Judaism</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>Why do people make promises/commitments?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>Why do people choose to commit to a particular cause or way of life?</td></tr></table> 6.2 How do Christians prepare for Christmas?	Th	What are the connections between the promises of commitment made by people of faith and sacred stories?	Progressive Study Christianity Islam Judaism	Ph	Why do people make promises/commitments?	HSS	Why do people choose to commit to a particular cause or way of life?	6.4 Who was Jesus? Who is Jesus? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>How do people of different faiths answer the unit title questions?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Islam Judaism</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>Why is identity important?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>How does what people believe about Jesus affect the way in which they live their lives?</td></tr></table> 6.3 What are the connections between the Last Supper and the celebrations of Jewish Passover and Christian Eucharist?	Th	How do people of different faiths answer the unit title questions?	Progressive Study Christianity Islam Judaism	Ph	Why is identity important?	HSS	How does what people believe about Jesus affect the way in which they live their lives?	6.8 Why is pilgrimage not a holiday? <table><tr><td>Th</td><td>What are the connections between pilgrimages and sacred stories?</td><td rowspan="3">Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism</td></tr><tr><td>Ph</td><td>What is a pilgrimage?</td></tr><tr><td>HSS</td><td>When and why do people go on a pilgrimage?</td></tr></table>	Th	What are the connections between pilgrimages and sacred stories?	Progressive Study Christianity Hindu Dharma Islam Judaism	Ph	What is a pilgrimage?	HSS	When and why do people go on a pilgrimage?																					
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	Th	What are Christians preparing for during Advent?	Progressive Study Christianity		Th	Why is there a connection between the Last Supper, the Passover and the Eucharist?	Progressive Study Christianity Judaism	
	Ph	Is it important to be prepared for an event? Why?	Encounter Non- Religious World Views		Ph	Why do many people think that remembering is important?		
	HSS	How do preparations for Christmas during Advent, impact on the daily lives of people of faith and those of no particular faith?			HSS	How do the historical events of the Exodus impact on the lives of people today?		

Key

Th	Theology involves studying a) how beliefs have changed over time; b) applied theology to different contexts and c) how beliefs relate to each other.
Ph	Philosophy involves studying a) how and whether things make sense; b) morality & ethics and c) questions of reality, knowledge & existence.
HSS	Human Social Sciences involves studying a) exploring diverse ways people practise their beliefs and b) how beliefs impact individuals, communities & societies.