### Faith and Belief (RE) Overview – Roundswell Community Primary Academy

The Academy's RE curriculum is based on *Discovery RE* (Jan Lever Educational Consultancy and Training Ltd. 2013), which is a set of detailed medium-term plans for RE from Years F1/2 to Year 6. It adopts an enquiry-based approach to teaching and learning. Christianity is taught in every year group, developing the learning in a progressive way. Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism are also covered. This document is based on *Discovery RE's* Introduction and Overview.

Discovery RE was written in response to the report 'Curriculum Framework for Religious Education in England' (The Religious Education Council of England and Wales - 2013), which breaks down the aims of RE into 3 strands:

- A. Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews, so that they can:
  - describe, explain and analyse beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities and amongst individuals;
  - identify, investigate and respond to questions posed, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and worldviews;
  - appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.
- B. Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews, so that they can:
  - explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities:
  - express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value, including ethical issues;
  - appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion or a worldview
- C. Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews, so that they can:
  - find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively;
  - enquire into what enables different individuals and communities to live together respectfully for the wellbeing of all;
  - articulate beliefs, values and commitments clearly in order to explain why they may be important in their own and other people's lives.

The document states that these 3 strands are designed to ensure that RE contributes to education by 'provoking challenging questions about meaning and purpose in life, beliefs about God, ultimate reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human' so that they can 'learn to articulate clearly and coherently their personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences while respecting the right of others to differ' and ultimately 'participate positively in our society with its diverse religions and worldviews'.

The belief behind *Discovery RE*, and one of the main reasons why the Academy adopted it as the basis to its own RE Curriculum, is that, using an enquiry-based model well, children's critical thinking skills can be developed, their motivation to learn increased, and their knowledge and understanding of, and empathy with people and their beliefs, religious or otherwise, will be enhanced. This approach takes very seriously the philosophy that children are free to make their

own choices and decisions concerning religion and belief. RE does not try to persuade but rather to inform and develop the skills with which evaluation can take place.

The planning model used in *Discovery RE* and the Academy's adapted curriculum is aligned to that recommended in most agreed syllabi, i.e. a planning process focusing on an enquiry. Each enquiry within Academy's RE curriculum demands the equivalent of approximately 10 lessons, and as such can be taught over a term. Each enquiry has a learning objective which shows the learning over the enquiry and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) development opportunities are included throughout.

#### The enquiry based approach

Each enquiry (or unit) is based on one or two impersonal questions, that require pupils to give an answer or answers that weighs up evidence and reaches a conclusion based on that evidence. This necessitates children using their subject knowledge and applying it to the enquiry question, rather than this knowledge being an end in itself. Each enquiry requires pupils to use their critical thinking skills to answer this impersonal question, while also requiring personal reflection on their own thoughts and feelings. Teachers should make a choice whether to address either one or both of the questions in each enquiry.

The enquiry questions occur in positions and a different order in the Academy's adapted RE curriculum than in Discovery RE, and has been linked to each termly topic. The link may not be obvious at first glance, so it is important for teachers to ensure they understand why each topic has been placed in a certain term, and ask for support from the RE Leader or Curriculum Leader if needed. PPA teachers who have been asked to cover RE as a 'stand-alone' topic are also expected to understand and take into account the links to topic, which may require support from the class teacher to understand the topic itself.

Resources and planning ideas for each enquiry can be found in *Discovery RE*, but as stated above, teachers should **not** follow *Discovery RE* exclusively without linking the enquiry questions to the topic.

#### **Step 1 – Engagement and Bridge (approximately 1-2 lessons)**

The engagement lesson is the way in which pupils can connect with the human experience underpinning the key question. The Academy has also provided key vocabulary which is explored, in order to ensure that this human experience is fully understood by all children. Teachers then help children to make a link, or 'bridge' between the human experience and the world of religion (which may be very much outside of their experience). Children may record in RE books as part of the Investigation step, but the exploration and learning is more important, and teachers' planning and lesson evaluations can act as evidence of pupils' learning.

#### **Step 2 – Investigation (approximately 5-6 lessons)**

In this step, the teacher guides the children through the enquiry, studying the factual base about the religion, carefully selected to assist their thinking about the key question and vocabulary. It is important in this step to try not to cover too much. More important than this is depth, and that the children embed their knowledge of the particular religion, and how it relates to the human experience and the Non-Core Curriculum topic. Children may record in RE books as part of the Investigation step, but the exploration and learning is more important, and teachers' planning and lesson evaluations can act as evidence of pupils' learning.

#### **Step 3 – Evaluation (approximately 1 lesson)**

This lesson draws together the children's learning and their conclusions about the key question of that enquiry. This is an assessment task which the teacher can plan and develop by using the Learning Objectives from each enquiry. This should usually be recorded in pupils' RE books, but teachers' planning and lesson evaluations can also act as evidence of pupils' learning.

#### **Step 4 – Expression (approximately 1 lesson)**

Children are taken back to Step 1, their own experience, to reflect on how this enquiry might have influenced their own starting point/beliefs, etc. Children may record in RE books as part of the Expression step, but the expression of learning in a way that suits the enquiry as decided by

individual teachers is more important, and teachers' planning and lesson evaluations can act as evidence of pupils' learning.

# **Religious Coverage**

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year One	Christianity	Judaism	Christianity
Year Two	Islam	Christianity	Christianity
Year Three	Christianity	Hinduism	Sikhism
Year Four	Christianity	Judaism	Christianity
Year Five	Sikhism	Christianity	Hinduism
Year Six	Islam	Islam	Christianity

Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry questions	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious texts/online resources	Learning Objectives
	Claws, Paws, Wings and Fins  Topic links: Taking care of the environment which Christians believe God created.	Does God want Christians to look after the World?	nature environment religious festivals care respect proud	Christianity  Creation story (Genesis 1)	F1.1Be able to retell a story from a religious text F1.2Be able to explain how religious beliefs can influence attitudes to nature and the environment F1.4Be able to describe some aspects of the Christian Faith
Year One	We Are What We Eat  Topic links: Jewish celebratory food as a link to God	Is Shabbat important to Jewish children? and/or Does celebrating Chanukah make Jewish children feel closer to God?	Sabbath rest laws customs challah Kiddush Cup latkes sufganiyot religious celebration commitment symbol(s) Jewish Judaism belonging identity menorah/chanukiah	Judaism • Story of Judas Maccabee	F1.1Be able to retell a story from a religious text F1.3Be able to talk about religious festivals and their importance F 1.5Be able to describe some aspects of the Jewish Faith F 1.6Be able to reflect on the importance of religious practice to a sense of belonging
	Plunder, Parrots and Planks  Topic links: Travel, different types of welcomes	Why was Jesus welcomed like a king or celebrity by the crowds on Palm Sunday?	celebrity special royalty triumphant welcomed belonging behaving	Desus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21-22)	F1.1Be able to retell a story from a religious text F 1.7Be able to explain why Jesus is special to Christians F 1.8 Be able to explain how religious beliefs can influence our relationships with others

Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious	Learning Objectives
Year Two	Superheroes  Topic links: Good works of and inspiration for modernday superheroes	Does praying at regular intervals every day help a Muslim in his/her everyday life? and/or Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?	Muslim Islam prayer praying special belonging Qur'an Mosque Hajj Mecca/ Makkah commitment dedication pilgrimage	Islam  Islam/szycdm  Inttps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zk34wmn  Islam/szycd2hv  Islam/szycd2hv  Islam/szycd2hv  Islam/szycd2hv  Islam/szycd2hv  Islam/religions/islam/practices/fivepillars.shtml  Inttps://www.bbc.com/teach/class-clipsvideo/religious-studiesks1-the-five-pillars-ofislam/zv84jhv  Inttps://www.bbc.com/teach/class-clipsvideo/what-ishajj/zndfcqt  Inttps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zx8n34j  Inttps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zpqvcdm  Inttps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zpqvcdm  Inttps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zpqvcdm  Islam/szybpkq6f	F2.1Be able to explain some of the commitments demanded of people of faith F2.3Be able to explain why people of faith follow their spiritual practices, such as prayer F2.5Be able to explain how honouring spiritual commitments may foster a sense of belonging F2.6Be able to describe some aspects of the Muslim Faith F2.7Be able to compare aspects of Christianity, Judaism and Islam
	Were they hard times?  Topic links: The lives of the poorest Victorians and Victorian philanthropists	What did Jesus teach? and/or Is it possible to be kind to everyone all the time?	religious stories religious traditions religious teachings believing behaving kindness achieve	Christianity The Good Samaritan, Luke 10: 25-37 Mark 12: 28-31 Mark 2: 1-12 https://www.bbc.com/bit esize/clips/z3mgkqt	F2.2Be able to explain how different faiths require different commitments F2.4Be able to explore and reflect on the influences of faith and belief on relationships with others
	Mysteries of the Rainforest  Topic links:	Why did God give Jesus to the world? and/or	give gift saving helping	Christianity  The Christmas Story  Mark 12: 28-31	F2.4Be able to explore and reflect on the influences of faith and belief on relationships with others

Year	Topic, including	Enquiry Question(s) linked	Key Vocabulary – related to one or	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for	Learning Objectives
Group	suggested links	to topic	both enquiry	stories from religious	
Group	Suggested lilks	to topic	questions	texts/online resources	
	The mysteries of	Is it true that Jesus came	important	The Easter Story	F2.7Be able to compare aspects of
	Christianity	back to life again?	believing	Mark 16: 12-13	Christianity, Judaism and Islam
			Advent	• John 21: 1-14	
			important	https://www.bbc.com/te	
			symbol	ach/class-clips-	
			express	video/religious-studies-	
			religious beliefs crucifixion	ks1-the-christian-story-	
			resurrection	of-easter/zhgv47h	
			truth	https://www.bbc.com/te	
				ach/class-clips-	
				video/religious-studies-	
				ks2-easter/znkngwx	

Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry questions	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious texts/online resources	Learning Objectives
	Active Planet  Topic links: Can survival in certain situations be considered a miracle?	Could Jesus really heal people? Were these miracles or is there some other explanation?	miracle heal/healed expectations nature truth power interpretation meaningful	Christianity  John 9: 1-12  Mark 2: 1-12	F3.1Be able to retell a miracle story and reflect on its meaning F3.2Be able to reflect on religious symbolism in Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism F3.8 Be able to argue coherently for and against the truth of miracles F3.4Be able to explain how beliefs affect ways of life
Year Three	Explorers and Adventurers  Topic links: Pilgrimage, journeys to sacred places as acts of devotion	Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non- Hindu?	significant/significance appreciation pilgrimage Kumbh Mela bathing offerings funeral rituals holy Brahman Karma community	https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02n5tks	F3.6Be able to describe the significance of the River Ganges for Hindus F3.5Be able to show some understanding of the Hindu belief that there is one God with many aspects F3.3Be able to explain how Sikhs and Hindus express their commitment to God F3.4Be able to explain how beliefs affect ways of life
	The Rise of the Robots  Topic links: Sharing of technology, whether robots are conscious and/or religious.	Do Sikhs think it is important to share?	sharing community festivals Baisakhi/ Vaisakhi Gurdwara Langar Seva Diwali Khalsa	Sikhism  http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/sikhism/ https://www.sikhnet.com/stories/audio/gurunanak-and-boulder http://www.sikhiwiki.org/index.php/Duni Chand https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zvx6yrd http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/sikhism/baisakhi.shtml https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0114lhb	F3.7Be able to describe the significance of the Khalsa for Sikhs F3.3Be able to explain how Sikhs and Hindus express their commitment to God F3.4Be able to explain how beliefs affect ways of life

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Year	Topic, including	Enquiry Question(s) linked	Key Vocabulary – related to one or	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for	Learning Objectives
Group	suggested links	to topic	both enquiry questions	stories from religious texts/online resources	
				<ul> <li>http://www.bbc.co.uk/re</li> </ul>	
				ligion/religions/sikhism/	
				holydays/diwali.shtml	

Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic  What is the most significant	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry questions significant	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious texts/online resources Christianity	Learning Objectives  F4.1Be able to show some
	Topic links: Thinking about how the Nativity story would have been reported today.	part of the nativity story for Christians today?	symbols/symbolism/sy mbolising Christingle	<ul> <li>Luke 1: 26-35</li> <li>Matthew 1: 18-23</li> <li>Luke 2: 1-20</li> <li>Matthew 2: 1-12</li> </ul>	understanding of the special relationship between people of faith and their God F4.2Be able to identify religious symbolism in Christianity and Judaism F4.3Be able to understand the connection between believing and behaving
Year Four	Stargazers  Topic links: Tensions between science and religion, roles in religion and science. Famous Jewish astronauts.	How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to do?	Passover Pesach Kashrut Kosher dietary rules forbidden Seder charoset hazeret	Judaism  • https://www.bbc.com/bit esize/clips/zqwmpv4  • https://www.bbc.com/bit esize/clips/zhmpvcw  • http://www.bbc.co.uk/le arningzone/clips/shoppi ng-for- pesach/6598.html  • https://www.bbc.com/bit esize/clips/zmq6sbk	F4.5Be able to explain ways in which Jews show their commitment to God F4.6Be able to explain the origins of Passover F4.7Be able to explain the significance of keeping kashrut (food laws) F4.3Be able to understand the connection between believing and behaving
	Democracy  Topic links: Moving forward after the outcome of a democratic vote.	Is forgiveness always possible?	forgive/forgiveness/for given reconcile/reconciliation enemies	<ul> <li>Christianity</li> <li>The Lord's Prayer</li> <li>Love for enemies, Luke 6:27-36</li> <li>Teaching about anger Matthew 5:21-26</li> <li>Forgive 70x7 Matthew 18:21-22</li> <li>Teaching about revenge Matthew 5:38-42</li> <li>The unforgiving servant Matthew 18:21-35</li> <li>The criminal next to Jesus Luke 23:39-43</li> </ul>	F4.4Be able to show some understanding of Christian teachings on forgiveness F4.8 Be able to explain how the death and resurrection of Jesus exemplifies the Christian commitment to love your enemies F4.3Be able to understand the connection between believing and behaving

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Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry questions	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious texts/online resources	Learning Objectives
				<ul> <li>Jesus on the cross Luke 23:34</li> <li>Jesus overturns the traders' tables in the Temple Mark 11:15-17</li> </ul>	

Year Group	Topic, including suggested links	Enquiry Question(s) linked to topic	Key Vocabulary – related to one or both enquiry questions	Main religion of enquiry and suggestion for stories from religious texts/online resources	Learning Objectives
	Urban Pioneers  Topic links: The length street artists go to in order to be creative	How far would a Sikh go for his/her religion?	commitment to what extent sacrifice earnestly serve Langar temple Gurdwara Guru Granth Sahib Khalsa Kesh Kara Kanga Kaccha Kirpan	Sikhism  https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p010xjz1  https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02j4ykc  https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p010xx1m	F5.1Be able to explain how people can show commitment F5.2Be able to explain how religious commitment impacts on the way people live F5.3Be able to explain the significance of religious symbols F5.5Be able to suggest ways religious beliefs influence decisions
Year Five	Time Machine: AD900  Topic links: Different ways that Christian show commitment, different things happening in the world in AD900	What is the best way for a Christian to show commitment to God?	commitment believing behaving worshipping Eucharist Holy Communion forbearance faithfulness	Christianity     Exodus 20: 2-17     Galatians 5: 14, 22-26     https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zwcd2hv	F5.4Be able to reflect on the importance of religious texts F5.1Be able to explain how people can show commitment F5.2Be able to explain how religious commitment impacts on the way people live
	Different Pasts, Shared Futures  Topic links: What is the essence of religion? Can it be taken with you wherever you go? How far should people adhere to their religious practices in a new culture?	Hindus believe Brahman to be everywhere and in everything. How can this be so?	essence unique Brahman Atman create preserve destroy tri-murti Brahma Vishnu Shiva symbolism Aum	Hinduism  • https://www.spiritualeducation.org/library/story/svetaketu	F5.7Be able to reflect on religious practices in different cultural contexts F5.8Be able to reflect on and compare aspects of Christianity, Sikhism and Hinduism F5.6Be able to explain how religion has influenced migration

	War and Peace  Topic links: 'Good lives', questioning how far pupils would go for something they believe in, Jihad, and challenging stereotypes.	Does belief in Akhira help Muslims lead good lives?	good reward consequence Heaven/Hell right/wrong Akhira 8 doors of heaven Jannah Jihad Ummah community peaceful conflict Palestine/Israel Arab/Israeli terrorism stereotype/stereotypin g	Islam  Ittps://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p010xb84  Ittps://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0110cm4  Ittps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zwvq6sg  Ittps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jannah  Ittps://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011123h  Ittps://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zv4s34j  Ittps://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00xc83y	F6.2Be able to explain some religious perspectives on eternity F6.5Be able to explain how the Muslim belief in Akhirah influences the way they live their lives F6.6Know about different Muslim interpretations of Jihad and use knowledge to challenge stereotyping F6.7Be able to show an understanding of how Jihad relates to going to Heaven
Year Six	People Power  Topic links: Commitment to causes that are important to you can be shown in different ways.	What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?	commitment believing behaving Qur'an 5 pillars Zakah Sawm Ramadan fasting Hajj	Islam  Islam  Islam  Islam:  I	F6.4Be able to explain and evaluate the ways Muslims can show commitment to God F6.1Be able to explain and compare aspects of some major world religions
	What Price Progress?  Topic links: Thinking about whether a virgin birth or an	How significant was it that Mary was Jesus' mother?	chosen/selected depictions symbolism/symbolise pure/purity virgin	Christianity Luke 1:26-38 Mary's song Luke 1:47-55 Matthew 1:18-25	F6.3Be able to analyse and evaluate the significance of the Christian belief in the Virgin Birth

unmarried mother would	blessed	<ul> <li>John 1:14</li> </ul>	F6.1Be able to explain and compare
be an issue today.	servant		aspects of some major world
Opinions on whether	disgrace		religions
this is 'progress'.	conceived		
	incarnation		