

Religious Education

Religious Education is not taught as a discrete subject in the Early Years Foundation Stage but, as we are a Church of England school we have daily acts of worship, including our weekly Reflect sessions.

RE in EYFS is demonstrated in topic work around special places, celebrations and visitors to the setting. Celebrations play a significant role for our youngest children. It gives them the opportunity to visit special places (Reception St James visit) and meet important local visitors. Children can also try out cultural foods, explore different ways of dressing and look at relevant artefacts/ sacred items related to that festival or celebration. Children are able to immerse themselves fully into learning about different religions and viewpoints through play. RE is not a discretely taught subject, although children gain familiarity of our school Christian ethos through class based Reflect sessions and Collective Worship.

Children will leave Foundation Stage with a good understanding of our school values (based on the sermon on the mount) and will be able to answer the 'Big Questions' that lead into our Religious Education Curriculum, taken from the Oxford Diocese Religious Education Curriculum.

The 'Big Questions' that are posed include the following:

Who are Christians and what do they believe?

What is the church and who goes there?

Who am I and where do I belong?

Does everyone believe in God?

These questions will be addressed and answered through our Reflect sessions, in PSHE lessons and as part of our topic work through Understanding of the World. Please see the Early Learning Goal below statements for Understanding of the World.

Objective 1	Who are Christians and what do they believe?	
Skills	Nursery	Reception
	Children will understand that some people are Christian and that they believe in God.	Children will understand that some people are Christian and that there are many different religions and beliefs.
	Children will know the Nativity Story and be able to retell parts of the story with support.	Children will be able to retell the Nativity Story independently.
	Children will know the Easter Story and will be able to retell parts of the story with support.	Children will be able to retell the Easter Story independently.
	Children will be able to discuss celebrations for different religions with support.	Children will be able to say 3 different religions and associate their celebration.
Vocabulary	cross, Mary, Joseph, died, Diwali	crucifix, resurrection, Diwali, Eid, Easter

Objective 2	What is the church and who goes there?	
Skills	Nursery	Reception
	Children will visit the church for a Messy play session.	Children will visit the church for a Messy play session and take part in Collective Worship with the pastoral team from St

		James.
	Children will have an understanding about who goes to a church.	Children will know that St James in our link church and is in Bierton, Aylesbury.
	Children will recognise our link church St James.	Children will understand that Christians go to church and other people may have different places of worship.
Vocabulary	church, congregation, vicar, Christians	place of worship, ritual, belief, difference, similarity

Objective 3	Who am I and where do I belong?	
Skills	Nursery	Reception
	Children will know that they live in Aylesbury and attend Buckingham Park School.	Children will know where they live and be able to discuss features such as school, church, community centre.
	Children will be able to discuss their beliefs, religion and ethnicity with support.	Children will be able to discuss their own context (beliefs, religion, ethnicity) as well as differences with others.
Vocabulary	Aylesbury, Buckingham Park, family, community	Belief, religion, differences, similarities

Objective 4	Does everyone believe in God?	
Skills	Nursery	Reception
	Children will begin to understand that some people believe in God.	Children will understand that Christians believe in God and that other religions may believe in a different God.
	Children will begin to understand that people may have different beliefs with support.	Children will understand that people may have different beliefs.
Vocabulary	God, beliefs, acceptance, faith	God, Muslim, Hindu, Religion

Understanding the World Early Learning Goal –EYFS, 2021)

Past and Present ELG:

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society;
- *Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;*
- *Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling;*

People Culture and Communities ELG:

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts, and maps;
- *Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;*
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps.