

Supporting children in RE

Conversations about religion, belief and faith can be challenging for some children as it really stretches their thinking and encourages them to consider a range of worldviews. To better support your child with their learning in RE this term, here are some suggestions to get started.

Vocabulary and language –

Here are some key concepts the children will be learning this term you may want to ask them about. Encourage them to talk about these at home to find out what they understand so far!

Reception – Special, unique

Year 1 – Religion, Creation, Sacred texts

Year 2 - Festival, Community, Belonging

Year 3 – Community, Belonging, Identity, stained glass

Year 4 – Pilgrimage, Commitment, Mandate

Year 5 – Sacredness, Scripture, Divinity, Sources of wisdom

Year 6 – Worship, Prayer, Holiness, Rituals

Activities to try –

Here are some short, fun activities to try at home to support children with their RE learning!

Reception – Ask the children who is special to them and ask them to act out and show you what makes them special. Even nicer if you act out and show them why they're special too.

Year 1 – Ask the children to re-tell some of the creation stories they have read together – they could then act it out for you and show you the different parts of the stories.

Year 2 – Ask children to draw a picture of a festival and imagine they are there. Why not recreate it by creating some paper decorations, Diwali lanterns, paper snowflakes or special food? Bring these in to show the teacher.

Year 3 – Our local Ashington churches have some great stained glass windows. See if the children can pick out what story each window is telling. They could then draw or make their own using bits of coloured tissue paper.

Year 4 – Ask the children what a pilgrimage is. Where would be a special place for them? Maybe you can visit and take some photos to their friends or classmates of their own pilgrimage around Ashington.

Year 5 – Sacred texts have special meanings. Ask children what stories have a special meaning to them. They could write their own or you could take turns reading your favourite stories together.

Year 6 – Worship can include hymns or sung prayers. Look some of these up online and create an RE playlist. Which ones do they think non-Christians would still be able to enjoy?

Useful websites to find out more –

To find out more about some of the ideas your children will be learning, why not check the following sites.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/re.shtml

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z7hs34j>

<https://request.org.uk/>

<http://biblehub.com/childrens/>

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/festival-calendar/>