

Religious Education

All children – regardless of gender, starting point or background – will have the opportunity to engage with a high-quality religious education. They will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and vocabulary to learn through a diocese linked curriculum that provides opportunities to reflect, discuss and explore more about the world in which they live in. The curriculum provides children with the knowledge of different religious traditions, celebrations, stories and values. Our RE curriculum pupils develop an understanding of themselves and others as well as respecting differences. Lessons will promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of individuals and communities. We intend to inspire a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about different world religions.

Christianity



How and why do Christians worship? What are the benefits for believers?

Autumn 2



New Knowledge:

Worship is an essential part of a Christian's faith. Christians worship God to thank him for his love, ask for forgiveness for their sins and try to understand his 'will' for them.

Christians describe prayer as a conversation with God and they believe that it deepens a person's faith.

Humanists do not worship or pray, but they do hold talks, lectures and discussion groups within their community.

There are many different kinds of prayer, including:

Adoration - praising God for his greatness and admitting dependence on him

Confession - owning up to sin and asking for God's mercy and forgiveness

Thanksgiving - thanking God for his many blessings, eg health or children

Petition - asking God for something, eg healing, courage or wisdom

Intercession - asking God to help others who need it, eg the sick, poor, those suffering in war

Different Christian denominations worship in different ways.

Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Orthodox Christians have a set form of worship. It is a formal ritual based around the sacraments, particularly Holy Communion. This type of worship is called liturgical worship. Other Christian churches practise non-liturgical worship, eg Baptists and Quakers. This kind of worship has no set form and often does not involve Holy Communion. It is usually centred on Bible readings, a sermon, music and prayers.

Worship can be structured or unstructured and spontaneous.

When Christians worship, they feel different things as it helps them to express the different emotions that they may have at that time, and to communicate with God.

A spiritual experience is an encounter with something or someone other than yourself that is not based upon material phenomena. The experience leaves a person with a new and profound sense of awareness or understanding regarding God, a truth, or other religious expressions. The religious experience can be visual, auditory, and/or a sense of the presence of something "other."

Confirmation is a sacrament, ritual or rite of passage practised by several Christian denominations. It is a sign of welcoming into the Christian community.

In the Anglican Church, the sacrament of confirmation is conferred through the laying of hands. In the Roman Catholic Church, each participant is also anointed with oil. In Protestant denominations outside the Church of England, confirmation is seen as a rite of passage or initiation to full Christian discipleship.