

RE

Firsy Foundation

RE supports the aims for education, outlined in the National Curriculum, to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society as well as prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

At Firs we use the Derby City Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2025). It provides the legal framework for a syllabus for Religious Education for Derby City schools.

Intent

At our school, Religious Education (RE) enables pupils to explore questions of meaning, purpose, identity and values in a diverse and respectful way. Guided by the Derbyshire and Derby City Agreed Syllabus our curriculum ensures that pupils:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, which reflects the majority of our school community
- Encounter and learn from other principal world faiths represented in our school — including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism — as well as non-religious worldviews.
- Appreciate the diversity within and between religions, recognising that faith is lived differently by individuals
- Gain the skills to engage respectfully in dialogue, challenge prejudice and develop empathy, preparing them for life in Derby, Britain and the wider world.

Implementation

- **Curriculum design:** We follow the Agreed Syllabus, ensuring that Christianity is studied in depth at each key stage, alongside a balance of Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Judaism, and worldviews such as Humanism. Given our school context, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Sikhism receive particular depth of study, with opportunities to explore Jehovah's Witnesses and Buddhism in ways relevant to pupils' lived experience.
- **Enquiry-based learning:** Pupils engage with key questions that encourage investigation, reflection and debate (e.g. "What does it mean to belong to a faith community?").
- **Experiential learning:** We provide visits to local places of worship (churches, mosque, mandir, gurdwara) and welcome visitors from different traditions to enrich learning.
- **Cross-curricular links:** RE connects with PSHE, British Values, Picture News, Lyfta history and geography, deepening pupils' understanding of culture, identity and ethical living.
- **Inclusion:** Lessons reflect the diverse beliefs of our pupils, using their experiences as a valuable learning resource. We celebrate festivals and traditions from across the represented faiths, fostering mutual respect.

Impact

Develop **religious literacy**: confidently describing, explaining and analysing beliefs, practices and ways of life

Show **respectful attitudes** towards others, recognising diversity both within and beyond our school community.

Demonstrate **critical thinking** skills: weighing up different views, forming and articulating their own reasoned perspectives.

Become **active citizens** who understand the importance of community, compassion and responsibility in a multi-faith society.

Make **good or better progress** in RE, as shown in their ability to reflect, discuss and apply their learning to real-world issues of identity, values, and belonging.