

Religious Education - Glossary and Topic Vocabulary Document

General Glossary of RE Terms

Please find below a bank of general RE terms with their associated definitions, use this to ensure you have accurate understanding of the terms that are commonly used when teaching the subject of RE – these terms have been selected as they will be commonly used in all year groups across the school.

Key Term	Definition
Christianity	The religion that is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the belief that he was the son of God.
Sikhism	A monotheistic religion founded in Punjab in the 15 th century by Guru Nanak.
Islam	The Muslim religion, based on belief in one God and revealed through Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah.
Hinduism	The main religion of India and Nepal which includes the worship of one or more gods and belief in reincarnation.
Judaism	The religion of the Jewish people, based mainly on the first five books of the Bible and the Talmud.

Buddhism	An Asian religion based on the teaching of Siddhartha Gautama (or Buddha).
Atheist	A person who does not believe that God or gods exist.

Relevant Topic Vocabulary

Please find below lists of terms relevant to the dispositions being studied by Year Groups 1-6, the definitions for each of the word.

<u>Year 1</u>

<u>Autumn Term</u>

Cultivating Inclusion, Identity and Belonging	
Belonging	The feeling of being comfortable and happy in a particular situation or with a
	particular group of people.
Family	A group consisting of one or two parents and their children.
School	Where children learn.
City	A large and important town.
Faith	Trust in somebody's ability or knowledge; trust that somebody/something will
	do what has been promised.
Culture	The customs and beliefs, art, way of life and social organization of a particular
	country or group
World	The earth, with all its countries, peoples and natural features
Rituals	A series of actions that are always performed in the same way, especially as part
	of a religious ceremony.
Ceremony	a public or religious occasion that includes a series of formal or traditional
	actions
Conformation	the way in which something is formed; the structure of something.
Amrit	The Sikh ceremony of initiation which resembles baptism.
	Being Thankful
Thank you	An act, a gift, a comment, etc. intended to thank somebody for something they
	have done.
Harvest	The time of year when the crops are gathered in on a farm, etc.; the act of
	cutting and gathering crops.
Harvest	A celebration held in churches and schools to give thanks for crops that have
Festival	been gathered, to which gifts of food are brought for the poor.
Prayer	Words that you say to God giving thanks or asking for help.
Allah	The name of God among Muslims.

Jesus	the man that Christians believe is the son of God and on whose teachings the		
	Christian religion is based.		
	Being Modest and Listening to Others		
Society	People in general, living together in communities.		
Equality	The fact of being equal in rights, status, advantages, etc.		
Temple	A building used for the worship of a god or gods, especially in religions other		
	than Christianity.		
Qu'ran	The central religious text of the Islamic faith.		
	Expressing Joy		
Happiness	The state of feeling or showing pleasure.		
Nativity	The birth of Jesus Christ, celebrated by Christians at Christmas.		
Joy	A feeling of great happiness.		
Angels	A spirit who is believed to be a servant of God, and is sent by God to deliver a		
	message or perform a task. Angels are often shown dressed in white, with wings.		

<u>Year 1</u>

Being Fair and Just			
Fairness	The quality of treating people equally or in a way that is reasonable.		
Wisdom	The ability to make sensible decisions and give good advice because of the		
	experience and knowledge that you have.		
Being Accountable and living with Integrity			
Cheating	To trick somebody or make them believe something that is not true.		
Repercussions	An indirect and usually bad result of an action or event that may happen some		
	time afterwards.		
Escape	To get away from a place where you have been kept as a prisoner or not		
	allowed to leave.		
Conscious	Being aware of and responding to the surroundings.		
Repentance	The action of expressing sincere regret or remorse.		
Being Courageous and Confident			
Courage	The ability to do something in spite of being frightened (brave).		
	Being Loyal and Steadfast		
Promises	To tell somebody that you will definitely do or not do something, or that		
	something will definitely happen.		
The Last Supper	The meal eaten by Christ with his disciples on the night before his Crucifixion.		
Good Friday	The Friday before Easter, the day when Christians remember the Crucifixion of		
	Christ (when Jesus Christ was killed by being fastened to a cross).		
Easter Sunday	In the Christian religion a Sunday in March or April when Christians remember		
	the death of Christ and his return to life.		

<u>Year 1</u>

Summer Term

	Remembering Roots	
Memory	Ability to remember.	
Ramadam	The ninth month of the Muslim year, during which strict fasting is observed	
	from Dawn to sunset.	
Eid	Also called the "Festival of Breaking the Fast," is a religious holiday celebrated	
	by Muslims that marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of	
	Ramadam.	
Celebration	A special event that people organize in order to celebrate something.	
	Being Hopeful and Visionary	
Норе	To want something to happen and think that it is possible.	
Fairness	The quality of treating people equally or in a way that is reasonable.	
Rituals	A series of actions that are always performed in the same way, especially as	
	part of a religious ceremony.	
Hajj	The religious journey to Mecca that all Muslims try to make at least once in	
	their lives. The Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam.	
	Being curious and Valuing Knowledge	
The Qur'an	A holy book on which the religion of Islam is based.	
Bible	The Christian scriptures, consisting of the Old and New Testaments.	
Guru Granth	The holy book of the religion Sikhism Thus, the Guru Granth Sahib means a	
Sahib	Master Book by the Teacher.	
Character	A person or an animal in a book, play or film.	
Comforting	Making you feel calmer and less worried or unhappy.	
Protecting	To make sure that somebody/something is not harmed, injured, damaged, etc.	
Healer		
Open Honest and Truthful		
Truth	The facts about something, rather than the things that have been invented or	
	guessed.	
Honesty	The quality of being honest.	

Year 2

<u>Autumn Term</u>

Living By Rules	
Rules	A statement of what may, must or must not be done in a particular situation
	or when playing a game.
Ten	Laws or rules handed down to Moses by God.
Commandments	
Obey	To do what you are told or expected to do.
Bible's Old	The first part of the Bible, that tells the history of the Jews, their beliefs and
Testament	their relationship with God before the birth of Christ
Islamic rules	Sharia Islamic law or Sharia law is a religious law forming part of
	the Islamic tradition.
Being Temperate, Exercising Self Discipline and Cultivating Serene Contentment	
Inner	Finding joy in what we already have in our lives, feeling or showing
contentment	satisfaction with our possessions, status, or situation.

Fasting	To eat little or no food for a period of time, especially for religious or medical	
	reasons.	
Being Regardful of Suffering		
Suffering	Physical or mental pain	
Isa	In Islam Isa or Jesus is the prophet and messenger of God (Allah).	
Sharing and Being Generous		
Gift	A thing that you give to somebody, especially on a special occasion.	

Creating Unity and Harmony	
Stereotypes	A fixed idea or image that many people have of a particular type of person or
	thing, but which is often not true in reality.
Humanity	People in general.
Love	Liking and caring.
Good Samaritan	A person who gives help and sympathy to people who need it.
Unity	The state of being in agreement and working together; the state of being joined
	together to form one unit,
Sikh Langar	The term used in Sikhism for the community kitchen in a Gurdwara where a
	free meal is served to all the visitors, without distinction of religion, caste,
	gender, economic status or ethnicity. The free meal is always vegetarian and
	sometimes vegan.
Најј	The religious journey to Mecca that all Muslims try to make at least once in
	their lives. The Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam.
	Participating and Willing to Lead
Membership	The state of being a member of a group, a club, an organisation, etc.
Sunday School	A class that is organised by a church or synagogue where children can go for a
	short time on Sundays to learn about the Christian or Jewish religion.
Respect	A strong feeling of approval of somebody/something because of their good
	qualities or achievements.
Places of	House of prayer, house of God, house of worship) any building where
Worship	congregations gather for prayer
	Caring for Others, Animals and the Environment
Natural World	All of the animals, plants, and other things existing in nature and not made or
	caused by people.
Vulnerability	The fact of being weak and easily hurt physically or emotionally.
Environment	The natural world in which people, animals and plants live.
	Being Merciful and Forgiving
Mercy	A kind or forgiving attitude towards somebody that you have the power to
	harm or right to punish.
Forgiveness	The act of forgiving somebody; the quality of being willing to forgive somebody.
Responsibility	A duty to deal with or take care of somebody/something, so that you may be
	blamed if something goes wrong.

Summer Term

Being Silent and Attentive to, and Cultivating a Sense for the Sacred and Transcendent			
Listening	To pay attention to somebody/something that you can hear.		
Quietness	The state of having very little noise.		
Respectful	Showing or feeling respect.		
Being Reflective and Self Critical			
Perfection	The state of being perfect.		
Experience	The knowledge and skill that you have gained through doing something for a		
	period of time; the process of gaining this.		
Influence	The effect that somebody/something has on the way a person thinks or		
	behaves or on the way that something works or develops.		
	Being Imaginative and Explorative		
Imagination	The ability to create pictures in your mind; the part of your mind that does this.		
Appreciating Beauty			
Beauty	The quality of giving pleasure to the senses or to the mind,		
	beauty of something the beauty of the sunset/of poetry/of his singing.		

Year 3

Autumn Term

Sharing and Being Generous	
Giving	To hand something to somebody so that they can look at it, use it or keep it for a time.
Receiving	To be given, presented with, or paid.
Wealth	A large amount of money, property, etc. that a person or country owns.
Rich	Having a lot of money or property.
Share	To have, use or experience something at the same time as somebody else.
	Caring for Others, Animals and the Environment
Responsibility	A duty to deal with or take care of somebody/something, so that you may be blamed if something goes wrong.
Jain	A member of an Indian religion whose principles include not harming any living creature and a belief in reincarnation.
	Creating Unity and Harmony
Similarity	Things that appear to be the same or alike.
Difference	Things that are not alike and are different.
Wudu	The Islamic procedure for washing parts of the body using water, typically in preparation for formal prayers.
Baha'i	A monotheistic religion founded in the 19th century as a development of
	Babism, emphasizing the essential oneness of humankind and of all religions
	and seeking world peace.
Babism	A religion founded in 1844 by the Persian Mirza Ali Muhammad of Shiraz
	(1819–50) (popularly known as 'the Bab'), who taught that a new prophet
	would follow Muhammad.
Day feast	A day, especially a church holiday, for feasting and rejoicing.

Participating and Willing to Lead	
Traditions	A belief, custom or way of doing something that has existed for a long time among a particular group of people; a set of these beliefs or customs.
Worship	The practice of showing respect for God or a god, by saying prayers, singing with others, etc.; a ceremony for this.

Spring Term

Being Fair and Just	
Prejudice	An unreasonable dislike of or preference for a person, group, custom, etc.,
	especially when it is based on their race, religion, sex, etc.
Refugees	A person who has been forced to leave their country or home, because there is
	a war or for political, religious or social reasons.
Islamic	Connected with the Muslim religion.
Black stone	The stone which fell from Jannah to show Adam and Eve where to build an
	altar, which became the first temple on Earth.
Jannah	Paradise or garden which is the final abode of the righteous and the Islamic
	believers.
Bandi Chhor	A Sikh holiday which coincides with the day of Diwali.
Divas	
	Being Accountable and Living with Integrity
Challenge	A new or difficult task that tests somebody's ability and skill.
Accountability	The fact of being responsible for your decisions or actions and expected to
	explain them when you are asked.
	Remembering Roots
Memories	Your ability to remember things.
Passover	The Jewish religious festival and holiday in memory of the escape of the Jews
	from Egypt.
	Being Loyal and Steadfast
Qualities	The standard of something when it is compared to other things like it; how
	good or bad something is.
Friendship	A relationship between friends.
Instigation	The act of causing something to begin or happen.
Lord's Supper	Remembrance of Jesus.
Holy	A ceremony in the Christian Church during which people eat bread and drink
Communion	wine in memory of the last meal that Christ had with his disciples.
Easter story	The story of Jesus' arrest, death, burial and resurrection.
Last Supper	The supper eaten by Jesus and his disciples on the night before the Crucifixion.
Betrayal	The act of betraying somebody/something or the fact of being betrayed.
Judas	The disciple who betrayed Jesus.

<u>Year 3</u>

Summer Term

Being Open Honest and Truthful	

Injustices	The fact of a situation being unfair and of people not being treated equally; an	
	unfair act or an example of unfair treatment.	
Honesty	The quality of being honest.	
Being Silent	Being Silent and Attentive to, and Cultivating a sense for the Sacred and Transcendent	
Reflective	Thinking deeply about things.	
Reflection	An image in a mirror, on a shiny surface, on water, etc.	
Communicate	To share or exchange information, news, ideas, feelings, etc.	
Amrit Vehla	Considered a very special, auspicious time of the day.	
	Being Courageous and Confident	
Courage	The ability to do something dangerous, or to face pain or opposition, without	
	showing fear.	
Baisakhi	A Sikh festival held annually to commemorate the founding of the khalsa by	
	Gobind Singh in 1699.	
	Being Hopeful and Visionary	
Aspirations	A strong desire to have or do something.	

<u>Autumn Term</u>

	Expressing Joy		
Happiness	The state of feeling or showing pleasure.		
Spiritual joy	A state of the heart and the soul.		
Hindus	A person whose religion is Hinduism.		
Diwali	A Hindu festival that is held in the autumn, celebrated by lighting candles and		
	clay lamps, and with fireworks.		
Holi	A Hindu spring festival celebrated in February or March in honour of Krishna.		
Being Thankful			
Creator	A person who has made or invented a particular thing.		
Provider	A person or an organisation that supplies somebody with something they need		
	or want.		
Food bank	A place where people in need can go to get free food in the United Kingdom.		
	Being Reflective and Self Critical		
Follower	A person who supports and admires a particular person or set of ideas.		
Meditation	A practice of concentrated focus upon a sound, object, visualisation, the		
	breath, movement, or attention itself in order to increase awareness of the		
	present moment, reduce stress, promote relaxation, and enhance personal and		
	spiritual growth.		
	Being Curious and Valuing Knowledge		
Knowledge	The information, understanding and skills that you gain through education or		
	experience.		

Year 4

Being Modest and Listening to Others	
Foolish	Actions or behaviour not showing good sense or judgement
Cultivating Inclusion, Identity and Belonging	

Appearance	Way something looks/seems.
Turban	A long piece of cloth wound tightly around the head, worn, for example, by
	Sikh men.
Being Merciful and Forgiving	
Forgiveness	The act of forgiving somebody; the quality of being willing to forgive somebody.
Crucifixion	The act of killing somebody by fastening them to a cross.
Being Regardful of Suffering	
Empathy	The ability to understand another person's feelings, experience, etc.
Trafficking	The activity of buying and selling something illegally.

Summer Term

Being Temperate and Exercising Self Discipline and Serene Contentment		
Opinions	Your feelings or thoughts about somebody/something, rather than a fact.	
Being Imaginative and Explorative (and Appreciating Beauty)		
Uniqueness	The fact of being the only one of its kind.	
Majesty	The impressive and attractive quality that something has.	

<u>Year 5</u>

<u>Autumn Term</u>

Caring for Others, Animals and the Environment	
Family unit	The members of a family, especially parents and children, considered as a single entity within society.
Fundamental	Serious and very important; affecting the most central and important parts of something.
	Sharing and Being Generous
Value	How much something is worth in money or other goods for which it can be exchanged.
Hospitality	Friendly and generous behaviour towards guests.
Generosity	The fact of being generous willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts or time freely.
Being Loyal and	Steadfast
Boundaries	A real or imagined line that marks the limits or edges of something and separates it from other things or places; a dividing line.
Belief	A strong feeling that something/somebody exists or is true; confidence that something/somebody is good or right.
Commitment	A promise to do something or to behave in a particular way; a promise to support somebody/something; the fact of committing yourself.
Practising	Taking an active part in a particular religion, profession, etc.
Being Hopeful a	nd Visionary
Hopes	To want something to happen and think that it is possible.
Compromise	An agreement made between two people or groups in which each side gives up some of the things they want so that both sides are happy at the end.

Sacrifice	The fact of giving up something important or valuable to you in order to get or
	do something that seems more important; something that you give up in this
	way.

Spring Term

Being Open, Honest and Truthful			
Responsibility	A duty to deal with or take care of somebody/something, so that you may be		
	blamed if something goes wrong.		
Reactions	What you do, say or think as a result of something that has happened.		
Hypocrisy	Behaviour that does not meet the moral standards or match the opinions that		
	somebody claims to have.		
Encourage	To give somebody support, courage or hope.		
Being Sile	Being Silent and Attentive to and Cultivating a Sense for the Sacred and Transcendent		
Discerning	Able to show good judgement about the quality of somebody/something.		
Participating and Willing to Lead			
Social	The way people talk and act with one another.		
interaction			
	Being Modest and Listening to Others		
Humble	Showing you do not think that you are as important as other people.		

Year 5

Summer Term

Being Temperate, Exercising Self Discipline and Cultivating Serene Contentment			
Defend	To protect somebody/something from attack.		
Justify	To show that somebody/something is right or reasonable.		
Peers	A person who is the same age or who has the same social status as you.		
Serene	Calm and peaceful.		
	Being Accountable and Living with Integrity		
Morality	Principles relating to right and wrong or good and bad behaviour.		
Constraint	A thing that limits something, or limits your freedom to do something.		
Obedience	The fact of doing what you are told to do or of being willing to obey.		
Desire	A strong wish to have or do something.		
Sacred	Connected with God or a god; considered to be holy.		
	Being Thankful		
Spontaneous	Not planned but done because you suddenly want to do it.		
Appreciation	Pleasure that you have when you recognize and enjoy the good qualities of somebody/something.		
Dutiful	Doing everything that you are expected to do; willing to obey and to show		
	respect.		
Being Imaginative and Explorative			
Unique	Being the only one of its kind.		

Complexity	The state of being formed of many parts; the state of being difficult to
	understand.

<u>Year 6</u>

<u>Autumn Term</u>

Living By Rules		
Civil order	A civil order of protection is a court order designed to stop one person from harassing, contacting or abusing another.	
	Being Fair and Just	
Discrimination	The practice of treating somebody or a particular group in society less fairly than others.	
Radical	Relating to the most basic and important parts of something; complete and detailed.	
Holocaust	A situation in which many things are destroyed and many people killed, especially because of a war or a fire.	
Creating Unity and Harmony		
Fundamental	Serious and very important; affecting the most central and important parts of something.	
Opposing	Teams, armies, forces, etc playing, fighting, working, etc. against each other.	
Unity	The state of being in agreement and working together; the state of being joined together to form one unit.	
Harmony	A state of peaceful existence and agreement.	
	Cultivating Inclusion, Identity and Belonging	
Singh	A title assumed by A Sikh male when he becomes a full member of the community.	
Kaur	A title assumed by A Sikh Woman when she becomes a full member of the community.	

Year 6

	Remembering Roots	
Collective remembering	The memory of a group of people, passed from one generation to the next.	
Being Courageous and Confident		
Commitment	A promise to do something or to behave in a particular way; a promise to support somebody/something; the fact of committing yourself.	
	Being Merciful and Forgiving (and Being Regardful of Suffering)	
Unforgiving	Unwilling to forgive other people when they have done something wrong.	

Summer Term

Expressing Joy		
Eid	One of the two main Muslim festivals, either at the end of Ramadan, or which celebrates the end of the pilgrimage to Mecca and Abraham's sacrifice of a sheep.	
Appreciating Beauty		
Lords prayer	The prayer taught by Christ to his disciples, beginning 'Our Father'.	
Being Reflective and Self Critical		
Spirituality	The quality of being connected with religion or the human spirit.	