

Margaret Wix Progression Ladder – Religious Education

Purpose of study (Government Guidance)

Religious Education is not a statutory part of the National Curriculum but state-funded, local authority schools must provide a basic curriculum.

"The curriculum for a maintained school must be balanced and broadly based one which 'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and of society, and prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.'" Section 2 79 (1) School Standards Framework Act.

Breadth and depth can be achieved in RE, if the following are taken into account:

- RE should provide opportunities for pupils to develop positive attitudes and values and to reflect and relate their learning in RE to their own experience.
- Build on the statutory requirements, it is recommended that there should be a wide-ranging study of religion and belief across the key stages as a whole.
- Not all religions need to be studied as the same depth or in each key stage, but all that are studied should be studied in a way that is coherent and promotes progression.
- Pupils should have the opportunity to learn that there are those who do not hold religious beliefs and have their own philosophical perspectives, and subject matter should facilitate integration and promotion of shared values.
- The study of religion should be based on the legal requirement and provide an appropriate balance between and within Christianity, other principal religions and, where appropriate, other religious traditions and worldwide views, across the key stages as a whole, making appropriate links with other parts of the curriculum and its cross-curricular dimensions.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Enquiry Questions	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does God want Christians to look after the world? • What gifts might Christians in my town have given Jesus if he had been born here rather than in Bethlehem? • Why was Jesus welcomed like a king or celebrity by the crowds on Palm Sunday? <p>Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does visiting the synagogue help Jewish children feel closer to God? • Is Shabbat important to Jewish children? • Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children? 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world? • How important is it to Christians that Jesus came back to life after his crucifixion? <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does praying at regular intervals every day help a Muslim in his/her everyday life? • Does going to a mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging? • Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim? <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do Humanists believe? 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has Christmas lost its true meaning? • Could Jesus heal people? Were these miracles or is there some other explanation? • What is 'good' about Good Friday? <p>Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would celebrating Divali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child? • How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything? • Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu? 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today? • Is forgiveness always possible for Christians? <p>Buddhism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it possible for everyone to be happy? • Can the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place? • What is the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life? <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What motivates Humanists to lead good lives? 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the Christmas story true? • How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die? • What is the best way for a Christian to show commitment to God? <p>Sikhi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How far would a Sikh go for his/her religion? • Are Sikh stories important today? • What is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God? 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why he was born? • Is anything ever eternal? • Is Christianity still a strong religion 2000 years after Jesus was on Earth? <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God? • Does belief in Akhirah (life after death) help Muslims lead good lives? <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do inspirational people impact on how Humanists live?

	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand that Christians believe God created the world and expects them to take care of it. Know that stewardship is an important concept in Christianity Discuss ways Christians might look after the environment. Know the key elements of the Christmas story and understand why Christians give gifts at Christmas. Explore how the Christmas story might be relevant today and consider what meaningful gifts might look like in their own context. Understand that Jesus is central to Christian belief Know that Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. Recognize why Christians view Jesus as a special figure and explore how he was celebrated by the crowds <p>Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn that the synagogue is a special place for Jewish worship and community gathering Understand that visiting the synagogue can help Jewish children feel a sense of closeness to God and belonging to their faith community Understand that Shabbat is a day of rest and worship for Jewish 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that Christians believe Jesus was a gift from God to show love and save people from their sins Describe how Christians see Jesus as a guide for how to live a good life Understand that Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus as a gift to the world Explain that Christians believe Jesus' resurrection shows he is the Son of God Understand that Easter is a key celebration for Christians because it marks Jesus' resurrection Describe why the resurrection gives Christians hope and strengthens their faith <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that prayer helps Muslims stay connected to God and focus on living a good life. Describe how prayer brings discipline and peace to a Muslim's daily routine. Describe how attending the mosque helps Muslims feel connected to their faith and each other Identify the importance of shared worship in fostering a sense of belonging Describe how Hajj is an important spiritual journey that strengthens a Muslim's faith Understand that completing Hajj is seen as fulfilling a religious 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how Christmas is celebrated both religiously and commercially Explain the difference between the religious and secular aspects of Christmas Understand that Christians believe Jesus performed miracles, including healing Describe specific healing miracles from the Bible and their significance Explore different perspectives on whether these events were miracles or had other explanations Explain that Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Describe why Christians see Jesus' sacrifice as an act of love and salvation Understand why Good Friday is both a solemn and meaningful day for Christians <p>Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify that Divali is a key Hindu festival celebrated at home and in the community Explain the significance of Divali in symbolizing the victory of light over darkness Describe how Divali celebrations help Hindu children feel connected to their community and faith Understand that Hindus believe Brahman is the 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that different Christians may find various aspects of the nativity story significant Identify the significance of Jesus' birth as the incarnation of God for Christians Understand how the nativity story influences Christian worship and celebration at Christmas Describe the importance of forgiveness in Christian teaching, referencing Jesus' actions and parables Explain that Christians believe forgiveness is a way to reflect God's love and grace <p>Buddhism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that Buddhists believe happiness comes from within by overcoming desire and attachment Describe the Buddhist teaching that suffering is part of life but can be lessened through the Eightfold Path Identify that Buddhists seek inner peace and happiness through mindfulness and meditation Describe how the Buddha's teachings emphasize reducing suffering for oneself and others Identify the role of mindfulness and ethical living in creating a more peaceful society Describe the importance of right 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that Christians may interpret the Christmas story both literally and symbolically Describe the significance of the Christmas story for Christian beliefs about Jesus' identity Identify key elements of the Christmas narrative and how they shape Christian worship and tradition Explain the Christian belief in Jesus' death as part of God's plan for salvation Describe how this belief influences Christian practices, such as Easter celebrations and Communion Identify different Christian views on the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection Explain the importance of prayer, worship, and following Jesus' teachings in Christian commitment Describe how acts of kindness, charity, and service demonstrate a Christian's faith Identify the role of sacraments like baptism and confirmation in expressing Christian commitment <p>Sikhi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of the Five Ks in Sikh identity and daily life Describe examples of Sikh devotion, such as historical acts of sacrifice and service Identify the role of commitment and duty 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how Christmas traditions reflect beliefs about Jesus as the Son of God and Savior Describe the symbolism in Christmas celebrations and its connection to Christian teachings about Jesus' birth Identify how Christmas rituals reinforce Christian understanding of Jesus' mission and identity Explain Christian beliefs about eternal life, heaven, and the soul Describe how the concept of eternity influences Christian practices and moral decisions Explain the global presence of Christianity and its cultural and societal impact Describe how Christianity has evolved and adapted over the centuries Identify the role of Christianity in contemporary society <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of the Five Pillars of Islam in a Muslim's commitment to God Describe how daily prayers, fasting, charity, and pilgrimage demonstrate devotion in Islam Identify the role of the Qur'an and Hadith in guiding a Muslim's life and actions Explain the significance of Akhirah
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	<p>people, beginning at sunset on Friday and ending at nightfall on Saturday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise the importance of Shabbat in Jewish family life and why it is a special time for Jewish children Know that Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year and Yom Kippur is the Day of Atonement, both significant holy days in Judaism. Understand that these festivals involve reflection, repentance, and seeking forgiveness, which are important for Jewish children and their families. 	<p>duty and helps Muslims feel closer to God</p> <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify that Humanists believe in living a good life without relying on religious teachings Explain that Humanists value reason, empathy, and respect for others. Describe how Humanists make decisions based on what is best for people and the world 	<p>supreme being present in all things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how Hindus see different gods and goddesses as expressions of Brahman. Explain that Hindus believe everything in the universe is connected through Brahman Explain why the Ganges is important for spiritual cleansing and rituals in Hinduism Describe how visiting the Ganges might feel special due to its cultural and religious significance 	<p>intention, right action, and mindfulness in Buddhist practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify that living a good life in Buddhism involves balancing wisdom, ethical conduct, and mental discipline <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain that Humanists are motivated by reason, empathy, and a commitment to improving the world, including taking action on climate change Describe how Humanists believe in making ethical decisions to protect the environment for future generations Identify that Humanists prioritize sustainability and environmental responsibility as part of their ethical framework 	<p>in a Sikh's life, including the significance of Amrit Sanskar (the Sikh initiation ceremony)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how Sikh stories, like those about Guru Nanak and Guru Gobind Singh, provide moral guidance Describe how these stories continue to inspire Sikhs in their daily lives and actions Identify key themes in Sikh stories, such as equality, justice, and devotion, and their relevance today Explain the importance of Seva (selfless service) in showing commitment to God Describe the significance of regular prayer and community worship (Gurdwara) in a Sikh's life Identify the role of living honestly, earning a living, and sharing with others as ways Sikhs demonstrate their faith 	<p>(life after death) in Muslim ethics and behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how belief in the afterlife influences Muslim practices, such as charity and justice Identify the connection between Akhirah and the concept of accountability in Islam <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how Humanists are inspired by figures who promote reason, compassion, and social justice Describe the influence of Humanist role models on decisions about ethical living, including environmental actions Identify key values that inspirational Humanists promote, such as equality, human rights, and sustainability
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Christianity

- Give examples of how Christians might look after the world (e.g., recycling, planting trees)
- Discuss how they and others can help take care of the world
- Relate the story of the Nativity to their own experiences of giving and receiving
- Creatively express how the birth of Jesus might be celebrated in their community
- Discuss what it means to celebrate someone special and make connections to modern examples
- Express why Jesus was important to Christians through art or drama

Judaism

- Express how visiting a special place can help people feel connected to their faith
- Explain the importance of rest and family time in Shabbat
- Discuss how Shabbat helps Jewish children feel connected to their faith and family
- Express the significance of saying sorry and starting anew during these holy days

Christianity

- explain the significance of Jesus' teachings for Christians
- Discuss how Christians might show gratitude for Jesus in their daily lives
- Express the importance of Jesus' resurrection to Christians using art, drama, or discussion
- Discuss how the resurrection inspires Christian faith and hope
- Explain why Easter is a key celebration for Christians

Islam

- Express how regular prayer helps Muslims stay focused on their faith
- Discuss the discipline and peace that prayer brings to a Muslim's life
- Explain how prayer connects Muslims to God throughout the day
- Describe the sense of belonging that comes from shared worship at the mosque
- Discuss how participating in activities at the mosque strengthens community ties
- Express how completing Hajj might strengthen a Muslim's faith and commitment
- Discuss the significance of the spiritual journey of Hajj

Humanism

- Express how Humanists make decisions based on reason and care for others

Christianity

- Express different views on whether Christmas has lost its true meaning
- Compare religious and secular ways of celebrating Christmas
- Discuss different explanations for the miracles, including faith-based and scientific perspectives
- Role-play or retell stories of Jesus' miracles, exploring their significance
- Discuss the significance of Jesus' death in Christian beliefs about salvation
- Use creative methods to explore the meaning of Good Friday in Christian faith

Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism)

- Express how Divali celebrations create a sense of belonging for Hindu children
- Discuss the importance of light, family, and community during Divali
- Use creative expression (e.g., art, storytelling) to show how Divali strengthens community ties
- Discuss how Hindus see nature, people, and gods as connected through Brahman
- Describe how the belief in Brahman influences Hindu practices and attitudes
- Discuss how a non-Hindu might experience the Ganges differently but still feel its specialness

Christianity

- Express why different elements of the nativity story may hold personal significance for Christians
- Discuss how the nativity story influences Christian traditions and worship today
- Discuss examples of forgiveness in Christian teachings, such as the Lord's Prayer
- Identify that Christians may find it challenging to forgive but see it as essential to their faith

Buddhism

- Express Buddhist ideas about happiness and suffering through discussion or creative work
- Discuss how mindfulness and letting go of desire contribute to happiness in Buddhism
- Discuss the importance of non-violence, kindness, and ethical living in Buddhism
- Create stories or role-plays showing how Buddhist values can positively impact society
- Discuss the balance of wisdom, ethics, and mindfulness in leading a good life as a Buddhist
- Describe how a Buddhist might apply these principles in everyday situations

Humanism

- Express how Humanists are motivated to take climate action based on ethical principles and concern for others

Christianity

- Express how the Christmas story holds spiritual truth for Christians, even if understood symbolically
- Discuss how different Christian traditions view and celebrate the Christmas story
- Express the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection in Christian faith through discussion or creative work
- Discuss how this belief affects Christian practices like Easter, Communion, and daily living
- Describe the emotional and spiritual impact of this belief on Christians
- Describe the significance of sacraments in a Christian's commitment to God

Sikhi

- Discuss examples of Sikh dedication, such as historical sacrifices, and how they inspire modern Sikhs
- Describe the meaning of commitment in Sikhi and how it is practiced in everyday life
- Express the moral lessons from Sikh stories and their relevance for Sikhs today
- Discuss the impact of these stories on Sikh identity and community practices
- Express the significance of Seva and its role in Sikh life through various forms of communication

Christianity

- Discuss the significance of nativity plays, carols, and church services in conveying the meaning of Christmas
- Describe the personal and communal aspects of Christmas for Christians
- Discuss how concepts of eternal life provide comfort and guidance to Christians
- Describe how Christian rituals and practices reflect beliefs in eternal life
- Express the enduring relevance of Christian teachings in modern society
- Discuss the role of the Church in contemporary issues, such as social justice and community support
- Describe how Christian values continue to shape cultural and ethical standards globally

Islam

- Discuss how acts of worship and daily practices reflect a Muslim's commitment to God
- Express how belief in Akhirah motivates Muslims to live just and moral lives
- Discuss how this belief impacts decisions about charity, justice, and social responsibility
- Describe the ways in which Akhirah influences a Muslim's

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss the importance of empathy and respect from a Humanist perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use role-play or creative activities to imagine a visit to the River Ganges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss how empathy for other people and animals drives Humanists to address environmental issues• Describe Humanist initiatives or actions aimed at combating climate change and protecting nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss how Sikhs show commitment to God through daily actions, community service, and worship• Describe how a Sikh might balance religious duties with family and social responsibilities	<p>sense of purpose and ethics</p> <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Express how Humanists are motivated by the ideas and actions of inspirational figures• Discuss the ethical principles that Humanist role models promote, including climate action and social justice• Describe how Humanists communicate their values through campaigns, education, and activism
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<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions about how Christians care for the environment • Identify ways people show care for the world and compare them with Christian teachings • Use simple sources (stories, artefacts, pictures) to explore Christian ideas about creation and stewardship • Use role-play or discussion to explore why certain gifts would be meaningful • Ask questions about the significance of gift-giving in different contexts • Explore why people welcome special figures and compare this to Palm Sunday • Ask questions about why Jesus was considered special by Christians • Use images, stories, or re-enactments to investigate how Palm Sunday is celebrated <p>Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore what happens in a synagogue through pictures, stories, or visits • Ask questions about how Jewish children feel when they visit the synagogue • Compare their own experiences of special places with visiting a synagogue • Investigate the rituals of Shabbat using stories, videos, or artefacts • Ask questions about how Jewish families 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the idea of Jesus as a gift with other acts of giving • Ask questions about how Christians demonstrate their belief in Jesus • Explore why the resurrection is central to Christian faith using various sources • Ask questions about how the resurrection influences Christian practices • Compare Easter traditions with other celebrations of new life <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions about how prayer impacts a Muslim's daily routine • Compare the practice of regular prayer with other daily habits • Investigate the role of the mosque in Muslim communities using images, stories, or visits • Ask questions about how shared worship fosters a sense of belonging • Compare the mosque's role with other community centres or places of worship <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions about how Humanists make decisions and find meaning • Compare Humanist beliefs with those of religious worldviews 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the origins of Christmas and its significance for Christians • Compare religious and commercial aspects of Christmas celebrations • Explore stories of Jesus' healing miracles using different sources • Ask questions about how and why these miracles are important to Christians • Compare different viewpoints on whether the miracles were supernatural or had other explanations • Investigate why Christians consider Good Friday to be significant • compare the events of Good Friday with other significant religious observances <p>Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate how Divali is celebrated through stories, pictures, and discussions • Ask questions about the role of Divali in fostering a sense of belonging • Compare Divali celebrations at home and in the community • Explore the concept of Brahman through stories, symbols, and discussions • Ask questions about how Hindus understand and experience Brahman • Investigate the religious significance of the River Ganges through stories and images 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse the different interpretations of the Christmas story within Christian communities • Draw connections between the nativity story and modern Christian practices • Critically evaluate how the Christmas story's significance has evolved over time • Compare Christian views on forgiveness with those of other religions or ethical systems • Critically assess the challenges and benefits of practicing forgiveness in various situations <p>Buddhism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate different Buddhist teachings on happiness and their applicability to modern life • Connect Buddhist ideas about happiness with other philosophical or psychological perspectives • Reflect on how Buddhist practices like meditation contribute to personal and collective well-being • Critically assess the impact of the Buddha's teachings on different societies and cultures • Draw connections between Buddhist values and global movements for peace and justice • Compare the Eightfold Path with ethical guidelines from other religions or worldviews 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically examine different interpretations of the Christmas story within and outside the Christian community • Analyse the historical and theological aspects of the Christmas narrative • Compare the significance of the Christmas story in Christian and secular celebrations • Critically evaluate the theological significance of Jesus' death in Christian belief • Evaluate the role of sacraments and rituals in expressing Christian faith • Compare Christian expressions of commitment with those from other religions or ethical systems <p>Sikhi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically evaluate the significance of the Five Ks in Sikh identity and commitment • Compare Sikh concepts of commitment with those from other religions or worldviews • Analyse the moral lessons from Sikh stories and their application in the contemporary world • Connect themes from Sikh stories with current issues of justice, equality, and community • Evaluate the relevance of these stories for Sikhs today, comparing them with stories from other traditions 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse the symbolic meanings behind Christmas traditions and their theological implications • Evaluate the role of Christmas in both religious and secular contexts • Critically assess different Christian views on eternity, heaven, and the soul • Explore the concept of eternity in Christian doctrine and compare it with other worldviews • Evaluate the impact of beliefs about eternity on Christian ethics and behaviour • Analyse the global influence of Christianity in contemporary society • Investigate the role of the Church in addressing modern social, ethical, and environmental issues • Critically evaluate the adaptability of Christianity to cultural and societal changes over time <p>Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare Muslim expressions of commitment with those in other religious traditions • Critically assess the impact of belief in Akhirah on Muslim ethics and life choices • Investigate how this belief influences Muslim attitudes towards justice, charity, and social responsibility
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	<p>prepare for and celebrate Shabbat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the importance of family time during Shabbat with their own experiences • Ask questions about the significance of reflection and forgiveness in these festivals • Compare how Jewish children prepare for these festivals with how they prepare for important events 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the experience of visiting a sacred place in different religions 	<p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply critical thinking by evaluating how Humanist values, such as responsibility and sustainability, influence their approach to climate action • Make connections between Humanist climate action and similar efforts in other ethical or religious frameworks • Explore examples of Humanists leading environmental campaigns or initiatives, assessing their impact on communities and the planet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate different ways Sikhs express their commitment through Seva, prayer, and community involvement • Critically assess the role of daily actions and rituals in demonstrating Sikh faith • Compare the concept of religious commitment in Sikhi with that in other religious traditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how different interpretations of Akhirah shape Islamic teachings and practices <p>Humanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the lives of inspirational Humanists and their impact on society • Critically evaluate the values promoted by Humanist role models and their relevance to contemporary issues like climate change • Compare the influence of inspirational figures in Humanism with those in religious traditions
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