

Delivering the Key Stage 1 and 2 Content

What has changed in the new syllabus?

Key Stage 1 Breadth of study

Key Stage 2 Breadth of study

Organising your scheme of work



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What has changed in Key Stages 1 and 2 in the new syllabus?

- Some Faith specific content in Key Stages 1 & 2 has been adjusted to ensure better relevance to local faith and belief communities.
- There is a new Key Stage 2 Thematic unit to be studied in year 6; this replaces the Bridging unit(s), which schools told us were not successful. It is called ***Understanding Faith and Belief in Lewisham*** and schools have the chance to plan its delivery.
- The Thematic Units incorporate a wider range of faiths and beliefs – especially those that can be delivered through research projects, whilst all retain a core Christianity element that is non-negotiable.

Key Stage 1 Breadth of study

During the two years of Key Stage 1, pupils in Lewisham schools should be taught the knowledge, skills and understanding through the following areas of study:

Religions and beliefs and compulsory units

- a. Christianity for Key Stage 1. Set out as four half - termly units
- b. **Two** other principal religions from the content provided for Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism, one of which should be a religious community with a significant local presence in and around the school –schools must select the first two units of each of the two faiths they choose = 4 half termly units in all.
- c. A secular world view, where pupils introduce this from their own experience as appropriate; and
- d. **The Natural World statutory unit (year 1 term 1)**

Plus three of the four following Key Stage 1 Optional Units:

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- a. Belonging / Who am I?
- b. Right and Wrong
- c. Sharing Food
- d. Weddings

Key Stage 2 Breadth of study

During this key stage, pupils in Lewisham schools should be taught the knowledge, skills and understanding through the following areas of study:

- a. Christianity for Key Stage 2; this is set out as 5 half term units
- b. five other principal religions – Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. Schools should teach **the** remaining two units from those faiths introduced in KS1 and **all** four units from the other 3 faiths that have not yet been studied, totalling 16 half termly units
- c. a secular world view, where appropriate

Plus the following statutory units:

- a. The Journey of life and death
- b. Peace (to be taught in year 3)
- c. Understanding faith and belief in Lewisham

The units for every faith in Key Stages 1 and 2 have been developed in partnership between Faith and Belief communities, teachers and RE professionals to be taught in the order that they are numbered so that learning is scaffolded to develop knowledge, understanding and concepts. In Key Stage 1 the first unit to teach is The Natural World Unit.

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The statutory faith content has been devised to fit allocated amounts of time, expressed as half terms or 6 sessions which are expected to need approximately an hour each to teach effectively.

Faith Specific Content

Whilst Christianity has been allocated the largest amount of content and has therefore been allocated more curriculum time, the 5 other major world faiths have each been allocated an equal amount of curriculum time with each other across the 2 Key Stages. The statutory content is described in outlines of units of work, which have been devised to organise content in such a way that they scaffold learning. The units need to be developed by teachers to address the key questions linked to each unit, which have been placed below the content. These units do not explain how the content should be taught – this is for teachers to plan with activities and experiences fulfilling the key stage requirements described in the Programmes of Study (found in the Introduction to the faith content section and which has been adopted originally from national guidance) to meet the needs and abilities of their pupils.

In the Christianity section of the syllabus you will see extra focuses have been placed for Easter and Christmas in years where the syllabus does not naturally have a unit of work that caters for those significant times in the Christian year. This is because we know schools will still wish to engage pupils in something around those festivals and wanted to ensure that there were suggestions for how to do this whilst further developing knowledge, understanding and concepts about those festivals and the Christian community / family.

Thematic Units

Thematic units are either compulsory or optional and within these there are sometimes choices that can be made about which faiths and beliefs might be included. Christianity is a compulsory basis of all units and is not optional. The choices enable teachers to adapt the units to match the changing population of the school.

The compulsory KS1 unit, The Natural World, should be taught as the first unit in Key Stage 1 in all schools as it begins to introduce pupils to the concept of a creator God.

An example scheme of work overview follows.

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Example of organising a Key Stage 1 and 2 scheme of work

Incorporating suggested use of visit and visitors

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
1	The Natural World Unit	Christianity 1 The Bible and Christmas	Islam 1 Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)	¹ Who am I? / Belonging Unit	Christianity 2 A local church Church visit	Islam 2 Five pillars of Islam
2	Christianity 3 The Life & Teachings of Jesus	² Hinduism 1 Hindu Temple Visit	Right and Wrong Unit or Sharing Food	Christianity 4 Easter and symbols	Weddings Unit or Sharing Food Synagogue Visit	Hinduism 2 Hindu belief and home
3	Buddhism 1 The Buddha	Peace Unit ²	Christianity 5 The Bible Christian visit / visitor	¹ Sikhism 1 Sikh beliefs	Sikhism 2 Sikh teachings and Life	Hinduism 3 God and Beliefs
4	Judaism 1 Shabbat – a day of rest Jewish Visitor	Judaism 2 Festivals in Jewish Life	Christianity Local Christian places of Worship 6 Church or cathedral visit	Christianity 7 Christian celebrations	Sikhism 3 The Gurdwara and the Guru Granth Sahib Gurdwara Visit	Buddhism 2 Living as a Buddhist
5	Islam 3 Ramadan and Id ul Fitr	² Islam 4 Hajj and Id ul Adha Muslim visitor	Hinduism 4 Pilgrimage	Christianity 8 Jesus human and divine	Sikhism 4 Belonging to the Sikh Community	Christianity 9 Leading a Christian life Foodbank visit / visitor
6	Buddhism 3 Following the Buddha's teaching Buddhist Temple visit	² Judaism 3 Abraham	Buddhism 4 The Buddhist community worldwide	¹ The journey of Life and Death Unit Mosque Visit	Judaism 4 Prayer and worship of G-d	Understanding faith and beliefs in Lewisham A range of Visits / visitors

¹ Easter Extra focus

² Christmas extra focus

