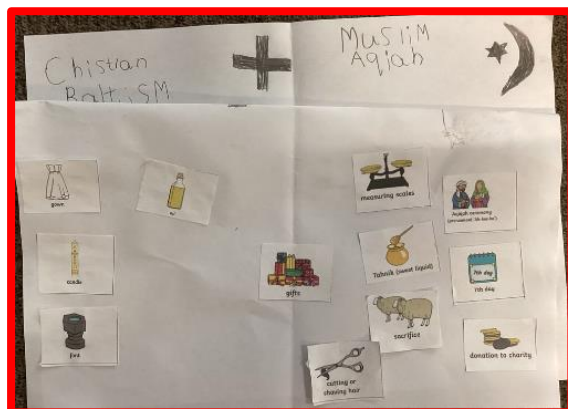
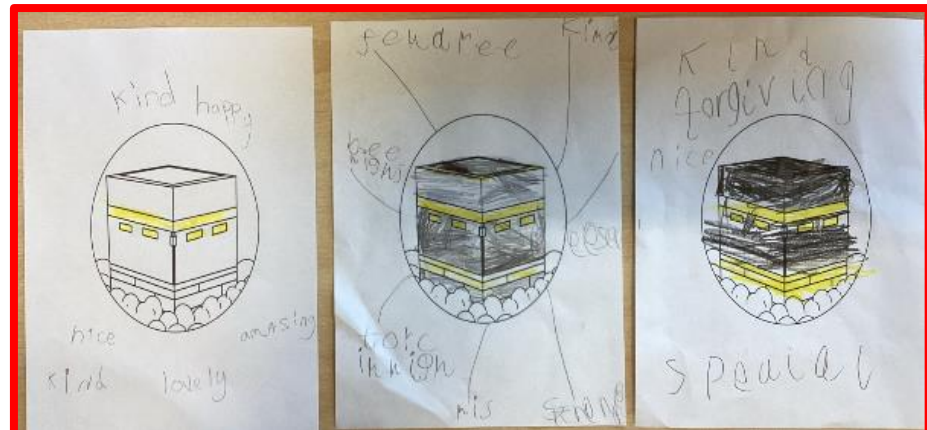


Half Termly Curriculum Highlight

Subject: RE



Meet the Subject Lead



Helen Kershaw

Helen Kershaw has been the subject lead for RE since joining Oswald Road in September 2023. Having experience teaching in faith and non-faith schools throughout her career, she was excited to start working with the new Manchester SACRE Syllabus. She has enjoyed seeing how the children from Oswald Road use their RE Days not only to understand about world faiths, but also to explore the big questions about life and how to live.

The Role of RE in the National Curriculum

An important curriculum subject, making a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports wider community cohesion.	Provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong, and what it means to be human.	Opportunities for personal reflection and spiritual development, deepening the understanding of the significance of religion in the lives of others – individually, communally and cross-culturally.
Religion and beliefs inform our values and are reflected in what we say and how we behave.	Religious Education	Develops an individual's knowledge and understanding of the religions and beliefs which form part of contemporary society.
Opportunities to promote an ethos of respect for others, challenge stereotypes and build understanding of other cultures and beliefs. This contributes to promoting a positive and inclusive school ethos that champions democratic values and human rights.	Provokes challenging questions; encourages pupils to explore their own beliefs; enables pupils to build their sense of identity and belonging; teaches pupils to develop respect for others; and prompts pupils to consider their responsibilities.	Builds the knowledge, skills and understanding to discern and value truth and goodness, strengthening their capacity for making moral judgements and for evaluating different types of commitment to make positive and healthy choices.

All of these feed into Oswald Road's vision for the classroom, school and wider community:

"As a school, we would like the children to know and value their place in not only the school and local community, but also nationally and globally and we celebrate the diversity of our local area."

RE at Oswald Road Primary School

At Oswald Road Primary School, we use the Manchester Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2022 to 2027. The syllabus was created and is reviewed by Manchester SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education), five other Greater Manchester authorities and colleagues from RE Today.

This syllabus requires that all pupils learn from Christianity in each key stage. In addition, pupils will learn from Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Judaism. Worldviews, for example Humanism, are also included.

To deliver this syllabus, Oswald Road Primary School utilises 'RE Days' in Years 1 to 6, where one key question is taught in multiple lessons over the course of the day. The week prior to the day, there is a *pre-teach lesson* which focuses on accessing and recalling prior learning, or introducing basic concepts and vocabulary. The week following RE day, there is a *post-teach lesson* where children have the opportunity to demonstrate and apply the knowledge, understanding and skills they have developed from the learning in their RE day.

The key questions within the syllabus are organised into three broad strands:

- **Believing** (*Religious beliefs, teachings, sources; questions about meaning, purpose and truth*)
- **Expressing** (*Religious and spiritual forms of expression; questions about identity and diversity*)
- **Living** (*Religious practices and ways of living; questions about values and commitments*)

Progression is achieved by pupils revisiting each of these strands repeatedly over their time at school, building on and developing their prior learning, whilst encountering new topics and ideas as they progress.



Nursery

At Oswald Road, religious education is incorporated into children's activities in order to help prepare them for the RE syllabus commencing in Reception. These activities form part of the wider topics covered in nursery, including: My Special Things, People Who Help Us, Belonging, Our Community, and Special Books.

EYFS

The RE syllabus is delivered through activities in continuous provision and whole class teaching. These form part of bigger topics in the EYFS curriculum framework, such as 'Understanding the World' and 'Festivals'. In particular, festivals and visits are used as opportunities to cover the learning of key concepts and vocabulary needed to support the Y1 RE curriculum.

Key Stage 1

Through the RE days, visits and enhancements at Oswald Road Primary School, children are given lots of opportunities, experiences and activities to achieve the following through Key Stage 1, as outlined in The Manchester Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education:

Pupils should develop their knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews, recognising their local, national and global contexts. They should use basic subject specific vocabulary. They should raise questions and begin to express their own views in response to the material they learn about and in response to questions about their ideas.

Key Stage 2

Through the RE days, visits and enhancements at Oswald Road Primary School, children are given lots of opportunities, experiences and activities to achieve the following through Key Stage 2, as outlined in The Manchester Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education:

Pupils should extend their knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews, recognising their local, national and global contexts. They should be introduced to an extended range of sources and subject specific vocabulary. They should be encouraged to be curious and to ask increasingly challenging questions about religion, belief, values and human life. Pupils should learn to express their own ideas in response to the material they engage with, identifying relevant information, selecting examples and giving reasons to support their ideas and views.

SEND

The Manchester Agreed Syllabus reminds us that RE is for all: every pupil can achieve and benefit from RE, including all pupils with SEND. At Oswald Road, teachers carefully tailor the planning of the RE syllabus to pupils' individual needs to ensure that children with SEND can achieve.

Pupil voice

"I enjoy RE days because it gives you an understanding of different religions. It helps you understand their everyday lives and what they do day to day."

"They're [Re days] nice because you get to learn about different people's religions, even if you're not in that religion."

"I enjoy learning about Muslims, as I am a Muslim, so I like learning about my own religion. I also like learning the Easter story, that's fun; we do fun activities for that. Just today we did some writing about that. I like learning about Hindus and Diwali; we got to go to the temple and that was cool."

"We've been to the Hindu temple on a school trip. My friend's dad works at a church and he came into school to tell us about Christianity."

"I enjoy the parts where you have to draw because it's fun. I also like learning about newer religions."

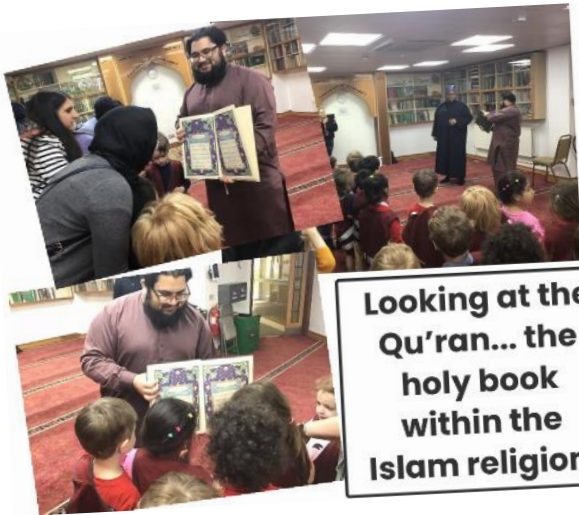
"I like learning about all of the religions."

"Our class really likes acting so our teacher might do one of the stories and let us act them out which is fun."

"They [teachers] ask people in our class who are that religion to help explain it and that helps a lot."

Subject Trips, Visits and Enhancements

Our RE curriculum is enhanced by the use of visitors, trips and other enrichment events. Year groups visit places of religious worship, and all major religions taught within Key stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have an associated trip.



Looking at the
Qu'ran... the
holy book
within the
Islam religion.

