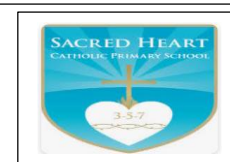


Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Religious Education Curriculum Overview

2026-27



The curriculum has six components that are known as branches – these will be taught one per half term across the six half-terms of the school year. Each one has a core theme and invites pupils to learn about an aspect of Revelation, Scripture, life in Christ, and life in the Church, and to discern what their learning means academically and experientially enabling them to see, judge, and act through a deeper knowledge of the Christian faith.

Branch 1. Creation and covenant: ‘The heavens are telling the glory of God’ (Ps 19:1). In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.

Branch 2. Prophecy and promise: ‘In many and various ways, God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets’ (Heb 1:1). The prophets speak of God reaching to his people, calling them back into a relationship with him. In this branch, pupils will explore the Christian understanding of the teaching of the prophets as they point to the fulfilment of God’s promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ. They will explore the expectant waiting for the Messiah through the Advent season and how this speaks to Christians today as they wait for Christ. Pupils will encounter the story of the nativity of Jesus and the mystery of the incarnation.

Branch 3. Galilee to Jerusalem: ‘God’s only Son, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known’ (Jn 1:18). In this branch, pupils will experience the ministry of Jesus, the Word of God. They will learn about the life of Jesus and his revelation of the Kingdom of God through parables, encounters, miracles, and teachings. They will learn about the call of the disciples and the nature of being a follower of Jesus.

Branch 4. Desert to garden: ‘Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day’ (1 Cor 15:3). In this branch, pupils will study the season of Lent and its culmination in the events of Holy Week. They will learn about the Paschal Triduum at the heart of the Catholic Church’s Liturgy and life. The title of this branch points both to the liturgical journey from the desert of Lent to the garden of Resurrection, but also to the Paschal journey from darkness to light, barrenness to fruitfulness, death to life.

Branch 5. To the ends of the Earth: ‘Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit’ (Mt 28:19). In this branch, pupils will study the events that flowed from the Resurrection and Ascension in the coming of the Holy Spirit and the work of the apostles and early Church. They will also learn about the Catholic Church today as the apostolic Church and how its liturgy and structures flow from the early Church.

Branch 6. Dialogue and encounter: ‘For “In him we live and move and have our being”’ (Acts 17:28). In this branch, pupils will learn how Christians work together with people of different religious convictions and all people of goodwill towards the common good, respecting the dignity of all humanity. They will also encounter other pathways of belief drawing on the teaching of the Church about intercultural dialogue.

Religious Education curriculum overview								
Year group	Yearly theme	Autumn term (Weeks 1 and 2)	Branch One: Creation and Covenant	Branch Two: Prophecy and Promise	Branch Three: Galilee to Jerusalem	Branch Four: Desert to Garden	Branch Five: To the Ends of the Earth	Branch Six: Dialogue and Encounter
EYFS: Nursery		Mission statement and class saint CST: Action focus	God made our beautiful world and me; how to look after God's world	Mary had a baby called Jesus in Bethlehem. Celebrating Advent.	Wise men visits Jesus. Jesus blesses the children. Glory Be is a special prayer. We should love and welcome as Jesus does.	Lent is a time to care for others. Jesus died on the cross. Simple signs of lent – purple, seeds, growing. Show caring for others.	Jesus went back to his Father. The Holy Spirit was sent to look after us. We gather in our parish with our friends.	Friends of Jesus. Hear a simple life of St Peter and St Paul. Explore a range of pictures of Jesus from a non-European tradition.
EYFS: Reception			The sign of the cross. God created the world and God loves us – Laudato Si and Creation story. God made each one of us; we are part of God's family	God chose Mary and God sent Jesus to love us. Advent shows us to help others. Various cultures celebrate Jesus in different ways	Glory Be is a response to Jesus coming. Our words and actions show love like Jesus does.	Easter celebrates new life. Signs of Lent: purple. Ashes. How do various cultures celebrate Lent and Easter in different ways? How we should help others during Lent.	Pentecost and The early Christian Community. Pentecost is a special celebration in the Church. All people are God's children. Good news of Jesus in early Christian Community	Friends of Jesus. Hear a simple life of St Peter and St Paul. Explore a range of pictures of Jesus from a non-European tradition.

Year 1	How people know about God		God Creator Father	Jesus Annunciation - Nativity	Jesus' ministry	Lent and Holy Week	Resurrection, Ascension and Pentecost	How Catholics live and celebrate their faith Judaism: core belief in one God and importance of the Torah
Year 2	Baptism		Noah Sacrament of Baptism	Nativity – Visitation, Magnificat, Advent	Ministry, parables and miracles	Holy Week Easter Vigil	Ascension Pentecost Conversion	Love of God is shown through love of other people. Judaism: exploring how Torah teachings shape everyday Jewish life.
Year 3	Eucharist		Creation as God's gift	Mass Matthew's nativity	Matthew, miracles and parables	Institution of the Eucharist	Mass and mission	Jewish festival of Passover and how it's celebrated today Islam: aspects of Muslim belief and practice, such as the Five Pillars

Year 4	Lives transformed by faith		Abraham	Elijah and John the Baptist	Who do you say I am?	Forgiveness and Reconciliation	Peter and the Church	The life and mission of St Paul as a key figure in the early Church Islam: aspects of Muslim belief and practice, such as the Five Pillars
Year 5	Significance of the Old Testament in understanding Jesus		Moses	David	Jesus – New Law	Salvation	Holy Spirit and Confirmation	How Christians understand the Bible as a collection of inspired writings Judaism: exploring the importance of Hebrew, the Torah, and key elements of Jewish prayer and practice
Year 6	St John's Gospel		John's prologue New creation	Women in Salvation History	Signs in John's Gospel	Jesus' passion according to John	New Adam and faith in the Resurrection	How Christians are called to uphold the dignity of all people and contribute to their local communities.

									Hinduism: learning about religious life within the context of contemporary Britain.
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--