

Religious Education

Welcome to RE at Cowley!

During your time with us, you will be given the opportunity to examine, debate and discuss some of life's 'big questions' including:

- Is it possible to prove God exists?
- Is religion a force for good in the world?
- Is killing someone ever acceptable?

We also study five major world religions – Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Buddhism.

Task 1

To help you make an **excellent** start to your studies of RE, we would like you to learn the spellings and definitions of the keywords in groups 1 and 2 below. If you want to challenge yourself you could also learn the words in group 3. There are lots of ways you can do this!

You could:

1. Draw a picture to help remind you of the definition of each keyword
2. Test yourself-or get someone else to test you. Why not give yourself a reward (e.g. a chocolate bar) every time you beat your 'personal best'?
3. Create posters for the words you find the most difficult. Stick these somewhere where you will see them often (e.g. next to your bed) until you have learnt the word!
4. Write a paragraph using as many of these keywords as you can.

Use the tickboxes to show when you have learnt each keyword and when you have used it in a sentence

Group 1: Commonly misspelled words

You might already understand what these words mean – but can you spell them? These are the spellings our teachers most often have to correct during assessments!

Word	Definition	I can spell this word	I understand what this word means	I can use this word in a sentence
Miracle	Something remarkable which breaks the laws of nature			
Belief	Acceptance that something is true, without proof			
Believe	Having religious faith			
Religion	A system of faith and worship			

Group 2: Essential keywords

At Cowley, we learn about lots of different religious beliefs. Knowing these keywords will help you to understand these religious beliefs

Word	Definition	I can spell this word	I can remember the definition of this word	I can use this word in a sentence
Church	A Christian place of worship			
Mosque	A Muslim place of worship			
Synagogue	A Jewish place of worship			
Mandir	A Hindu place of worship			
Priest	A religious leader – usually refers to a religious leader in Christianity or Hinduism			
Vicar	In the Church of England, someone who is responsible for a parish			
Imam	A Muslim religious leader			
Rabbi	A Jewish religious leader			
Bible	The Christian Holy Book			
Qur'an	The Muslim Holy Book			
Torah	The Jewish Holy Book			
Vedas	A Hindu Holy Book			
Muslim	Someone who follows the religion of Islam			
Parish	A local Church community			
Holy	Something relating to God			

Group 3: Expert Keywords

Knowing the words below will help you to become an RE expert during your time at Cowley. They will give you a deeper understanding of religious ideas and help you with your explanations.

They are much more challenging than the words in Groups 1 and 2- try and learn as many as you can!

		I can spell this word	I can remember the definition of this word	I can use this word in a sentence
Agnostic	Someone who is unsure about whether God exists			
Atheist	Someone who does not believe God exists			
Denomination	A group within Christianity – e.g. Church of England, Catholic, Methodist			
Divine	Relating to God			
Monotheism	Belief in one God			
Polytheism	Belief in more than one God			
Secular	Non-religious			
Scripture	A Holy Book			
Theist	Someone who believes God exists			

Task 2: World Religions Profile

To make sure you have a good understanding of world religions before starting at Cowley, we would like you to research at least one of the religions below (you could do more) and create a poster demonstrating your findings.

Your poster should include the following information:

- What are followers of that religion called?
- What is their place of worship called?
- What are their Holy Books called?
- How many people follow that religion in the UK today?
- What is the symbol of that religion?
- How did the religion begin?

If you want to add in an extra challenge, you could also include:

- What major festivals do they celebrate? Why are they important?
- Find out five facts about an important person in that religion.

The religions you can choose from are:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Hinduism
- Judaism
- Buddhism

The BBC Bitesize website is a good place to start your research!

