

## Medium Term Plan: Religious Education

### Year 1 Christianity – (Jesus)

**Year 1 Key Question (to be used all year):** What do people say about God?

**Focus Question (for this investigation):** Why is Jesus special to Christmas

#### Concepts:

Transcendence

Belief

Worship

Tradition

Commitment

Identity

Interdependence

**Key Vocabulary:** candles, church nativity, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, Angel Gabriel, innkeeper, wise men, welcoming.

**Prior learning:** Pupils will have explored the use of the term 'father' to address God, the importance of prayer and the need for loving relationships.

#### Core Knowledge: In depth study

- Discuss why family is important. Who is responsible for raising children in a family? What roles do people have in terms of helping one another?
- Read stories with new babies in them. Talk about the fact that babies are both physically and emotionally vulnerable.
- How do people prepare for a new baby? Make a list of important items and ask pupils to select their top three and explain why they chose them.
- Show the class a gift-wrapped box. Tell them that it is the best present ever – ask them what they think it might be and why. Discuss the difference between gifts of financial value and gifts such as love and family and caring.
- Read or watch the Christmas nativity and ask pupils to draw a picture to explain the key parts of the story.
- Pupils to choose three characters from the story and explain why they have chosen them and what their role within the story was. Explain that for Christians, Jesus is God himself and so is the most important character in the story.
- Discuss why Jesus was a special baby: why might Christians describe Jesus as a gift to the world?
- Talk to a Christian to find out what they think is the important message in the Christmas story.
- Take part in a retelling of the nativity story. Talk about why Christians might retell this story as part of their Christmas celebrations.
- Look at a selection of Christmas cards. Identify which ones have a religious meaning and which do not reflect any religious beliefs or traditions.
- Email a believer. <http://www.reonline.org.uk/supporting/>. Ask Christians how the Christmas story effects their lives.
- Discuss why people give and receive presents. Why might some people gain pleasure from giving a present?
- Share ideas about non-materialistic presents – Can a person be a present? Why/Why not?
- Relate ideas back to the Christian teaching of Jesus being a gift from God and an expression of God's love for humanity.

#### Key Questions: -

Who is vulnerable and why?

Do all people need help sometimes?

Why should we help others who cannot take care of themselves?

How is new life celebrated?

Why are babies so special?

Why should we give babies love and care?

Who or what is special to me?

Who helps me when I am in need?

**Wider Influences: worth being familiar with**

- Giving and receiving presents
- Looking after babies/younger children/people who need help.

**Enduring Understanding:**

- To retell a simple version of the nativity story and explain why Christians would say that Jesus is a special baby.
- To discuss how different characters in the nativity welcome the baby Jesus.
- To identify religious aspects of Christmas celebrations and explain why Christmas is a special time for Christians.