

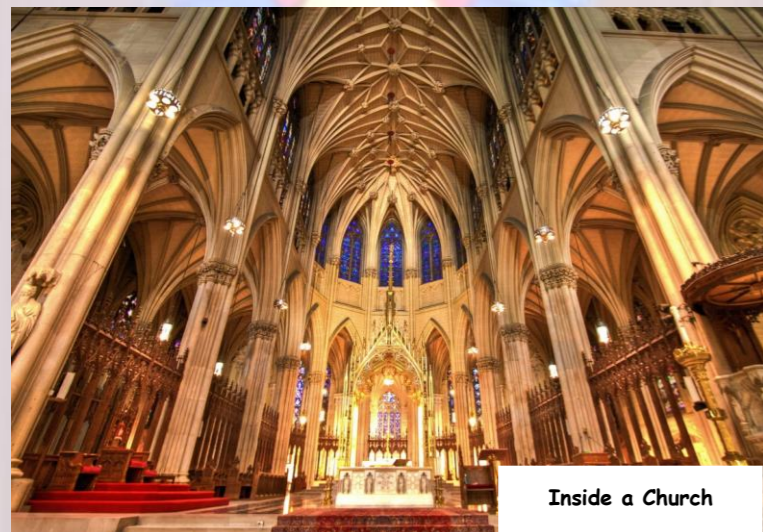
**What makes some places sacred to believers?  
Year 1 and Year 2**

**Key Concepts**

- Key RE Concepts:**  
**Key Elements:**  
 Making Sense of beliefs  
 • Core Concepts and beliefs  
 Making Connections  
 • ideas to pupils lives  
 Understanding Impact  
 • beliefs in action

**Common core RE Concepts:**

- Belief
- Worship
- Transcendence
- Tradition
- Morality
- Commitment
- Suffering
- Identity
- Interdependence



Inside a Church

**Key Skills I will learn/use**

- Remember:** I will use my memory to remember what I have learnt about other religions and the stories I have heard.  
**Recall:** I will be able to recall facts and dates important to Muslims, Jews and Christians.  
**Name:** I will be able to name different holy books, Gods and holy places of worship.  
**Observe:** - I will learn to observe how objects are used and how to handle them.  
**Notice:** I will be able to notice how some religious teachings are very similar to some in the other religions.  
**Recognise:** I will be able to recognise some similarities and differences between different faiths.  
**Understand:** I will be able to understand the importance of holy places of worship to believers.  
**Retell:** I will be able to re tell some of the religious stories I have learnt about.  
**Ask questions:** I will be able to ask appropriate questions to further my knowledge of different faiths.  
**Give opinions:** I will be able to give respectful and well thought out opinions on what I have learnt about faiths and what they believe.  
**Collect, use and respond to ideas :** I will be able to use different research techniques to collect, use and respond to the ideas I have and different beliefs.

**What I have already learnt**

- I already know people have different beliefs.
- I already know a range of religious stories from the Christian Bible and the Qur'an.
- I have already learnt how to handle religious artefacts and objects with respect.
- I have already learnt about different religious celebrations in Christianity, Judaism and Islam.
- I have already started to notice and respond to some of the similarities and differences between religions.
- I have already observed and recounted different ways of expressing identity and belonging.
- I have already learnt to ask and respond to questions about what individuals and communities do, and why.
- I have already learnt to recognise some of the symbols and actions that express a religious community's way of life.

**What I will have learnt by the end of this unit**

- Making sense of belief:**
- I will have learnt to recognise that there are special places where people go to worship, and talk about what people do there.
  - I will have learnt to identify at least three objects used in worship in two religions and give a simple account of how they are used and something about what they mean.
  - I will have learnt to identify a belief about worship and a belief about God, connecting these beliefs simply to a place of worship.
- Understanding the impact:**
- I will have learnt to give examples of stories, objects, symbols and actions used in churches, mosques and/or synagogues that show what people believe.
  - I will have learnt to give simple examples of how people worship at a church, mosque or synagogue.
  - I will have learnt to talk about why some people like to belong to a sacred building or a community.
- Making connections:**
- I will have learnt to think, talk and ask good questions about what happens in a church, synagogue or mosque, saying what I think about these questions, giving good reasons for my ideas.
  - I will have learnt to talk about what makes some places special to people, and what the difference is between religious and non-religious special places.

**What I will have learnt by the end of my Key Stage**

- Making sense of belief:**
- I will have learnt to recognise sacred words and texts of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.
  - I will be able to identify some of the key beliefs about God found in the different holy books and give a simple description of what some of them mean.
  - I will be able to give examples of how stories about different religious figures show what believers believe about God.
- Understanding the impact:**
- I will have learnt to give examples of how Muslims, Jews and Christians show what matters to them.
  - I will have learnt to give examples of how Muslims, Jews and Christians use stories about their God to guide their beliefs and actions (e.g. care for creation, fast in Ramadan).
  - I will have learnt to give examples of how Muslims, Jews and Christians put their beliefs about prayer into action.
- Making connections:**
- I will have learnt to think, talk about and ask questions about beliefs and ways of living.
  - I will have learnt what believers think is good about prayer, respect, celebration and self-control, giving a good reason for my ideas.
  - I will have learnt to give a good reason for my ideas about prayer, respect, celebration and self-control.



Inside a Synagogue

**Key Vocabulary**

- **Sacred** - Something that is holy and connected with religion.
- **Holy** - Dedicated to God or a religious purpose.
- **Respect** - A feeling of deep admiration for someone or something.
- **Islam** - Islam is the second most popular religion in the world.
- **Muslim** - A follower of the religion of Islam.
- **Allah** - The Arabic name that Muslims use for God.
- **Mosque** - Muslim place of worship.
- **The Qur'an** - The holy book of Islam
- **Christianity** - The religion based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ, or its beliefs and practices.
- **Christian** - A follower of the religion of Christianity.
- **God** - The perfect and all-powerful spirit or being that is worshipped especially by Christians and Jews,
- **Bible** - The holy book of Christianity.
- **Church** - Christian place of worship.
- **Judaism** - Judaism is the religion of the Jewish people.
- **Jew** - A follower of the religion of Judaism.
- **Torah** - The holy book of Judaism.
- **Synagogue** - Jewish place of worship.
- **Psalms** - A sacred song or poem.
- **Hymns** - A song of praise especially to God.
- **Prayers** - A channel of communication between souls and God.
- **Artefacts** - A man made object such as pieces of art or tools.
- **Special** - Unique, extra, being or having more than the usual.



Inside a Mosque

### Key Knowledge

Every religion has a special place that is sacred to them for worshipping their God.

#### Church - A Christian place of worship

From the earliest times Christians have met together on Sunday to worship God. Sunday is the first day of the week and the day of the resurrection. There is no audience at a service of worship, instead there is a congregation. People have all come together in order that they might share in the offering of worship to God.

The main elements in a service of worship are:

- singing
- praying
- preaching
- Bible reading
- Holy Communion

Church buildings come in many different shapes and sizes. They can be traditional or modern. Differences in architecture, layout and style are important because they say something about the beliefs of the people who worship there.

#### Synagogues - Jewish houses of prayer

The synagogue is a place of study, a house of gathering, and a house of prayer. The most important thing in a synagogue is the ark, a container or cabinet that contains the Torah scroll.

The ark also has an eternal light (ner tamid) that symbolizes the eternal flame that once burned on the Temple Mount.

Synagogues try to put the ark on the wall that faces Jerusalem so that worshippers face Jerusalem during prayer. If the synagogue can't be arranged that way, worshippers face the ark.

#### Mosques - Islam places of ritual worship

The main function of a mosque is as a place to the praise and worship of Allah.

A mosque is any place devoted to prayer. It could be a house, a community building, or an open area of ground that was marked off as sacred. In fact, the early mosques were based on the place where Muhammad worshipped: the courtyard of his house. The builders kept the basic design — open space — and added a roof.

Many mosques have domed roofs, on the top is the symbol of Islam: a star and a crescent moon.

The star has five points, reminding Muslims of the five pillars of Islam.

The crescent moon reminds Muslims of Allah the Creator and the lunar calendar that marks Islamic holy days.

Attached to many mosques in Muslim countries is a tower, called a minaret, where the muezzin calls people to prayer.

Most mosques also have an ablutions room, a place where the faithful can perform the ritual washing before prayer.

When you enter a mosque, you may notice the following:

Mosques don't have furniture. Everyone sits on the floor, not in pews or chairs.

In larger mosques, the carpeting often has a design that marks out the prayer lines so that people know where to sit to leave enough room for someone else.

The wall that faces Mecca (and the wall Muslims face when they pray) is called the qiblah. Set in this wall is a niche or an alcove, called a mihrab that points in the direction of Mecca. The mihrab is not an altar (even though it kind of looks like one). Its function is to direct Muslims' minds and thoughts toward God.

To the right of the arch is a raised platform called the minbar. Similar to a pulpit, this is where the imam reads the prayers and gives sermons.

Mosques don't have statues or pictures. You won't find images of God, Muhammad, or any of the prophets, for example. Instead, you'll find beautiful calligraphy of verses from the Qur'an.

### Opportunities for teaching Diversity, Equality (Including protected characteristics) and expanding Cultural Capital

- Muslim Learner Services  
<https://muslimlearnerservices.org/primary-school-visits/>
- Local Mosque visit
- Scarborough Islamic Centre
- York Mosque & Islamic Centre
- [www.yorkmosque.com](http://www.yorkmosque.com)
- Church visit
- Synagogue Visit <https://jewsinyork.org.uk/>
- Opportunity to research diversity within each religion.

### Recall and Remember

In 5 minutes can you ...

1. Say 2 things that happen in a mosque?
2. Describe 3 ways that people worship in a synagogue?
3. Describe how a cross or candle shows a Christian belief?
4. Give two similarities between Islam and Christianity?
5. Say why some people like to belong to a sacred building or community?

### My Skills and Knowledge that I may use from other subjects

**Literacy:** I can use my literacy knowledge and skills to write detailed descriptions of objects, beliefs and experiences.

**Reading:** I can use my phonic knowledge and skills to segmenting and blending to decode unfamiliar words.

**Geography:** I can use my geographical knowledge to find out which country religions were founded.

**Science:** I can use my knowledge of seasons to know when specific religious festivals are.

**Art:** I can use my art skills to recreate and evaluate art in holy places of worship.

**D&T:** I can use my Design and Technology construction and joining skills to construct models of holy places.

