

The Six Strands

Fields of enquiry	Definition	Suggestions for investigation	Key question for RE
Beliefs, teachings and sources	Interpreting religious concepts, teachings, sources, authorities and ways of life in order to understand religions and beliefs. Understanding and responding critically to beliefs and attitudes.	God, Trinity, Bible, Creed Shema, Covenant, Mitzvot Allah, Shahadah, Qur'an Brahman, The Trimurti, Shruti Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha Guru, Guru Granth Sahib, Mool mantra	How do people develop their beliefs and understanding? How do religions and philosophies understand and develop beliefs and teachings within their traditions?
Practices and ways of life	Exploring the impact of religions and beliefs on how people live their lives. Understanding and responding critically to beliefs and attitudes.	Worship, prayer, meditation and pilgrimage e.g. Hajj. Religious artefacts, holy times and festivals associated with them, e.g. Passover, Easter. Religious buildings e.g. Church, Synagogue	How do people show their devotion? How do people keep in touch with their faith and philosophy?
Expressing meaning	Appreciating that individuals and cultures express their beliefs and values through many different forms. The many different ways in which prophets, artists, poets, writers, architects, theologians, composers, performers and story-tellers have attempted to express their beliefs and values.	Religious music, chanting, pictures, symbols, metaphors, poetry, parables, stories, myths, comedy, sculpture, carving, dance, drama, buildings, prayers, ritual writing, rituals, calligraphy, attitudes, behaviour and lifestyles.	How do people share their religious beliefs and values with others? How do people communicate their beliefs and values to others?

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Identity, diversity and belonging	<p>Understanding how individuals develop a sense of identity and belonging through faith or belief.</p> <p>Exploring the variety, difference and relationships that exist within and between religions, values and beliefs.</p>	<p>Relationships, experiences, community, eg Umma individuality, personality, feelings, preferences, dialogue between faiths and philosophies.</p>	<p>What makes us belong? What does it mean to be a human being?</p>
Meaning, purpose and truth	<p>Exploring some of the ultimate questions that confront humanity, and responding imaginatively to them. The ups, downs and meaning(s) of life's journey.</p>	<p>Religious and non-religious views about life's wonders and sadness, its triumphs and tribulations, the place and role of human beings within the natural world and on the search for meaning, purpose and truth in philosophy, religion and science.</p>	<p>How do we answer life's big questions? What is the meaning of life?</p>
Values and commitments	<p>Understanding how moral values and a sense of obligation can come from beliefs and experience. Evaluating their own and others' values in order to make informed, rational and imaginative choices</p>	<p>Religious and non-religious influences on values, commitments, laws, attitudes, behaviour, and moral guidelines, and study of the sources of moral authority which might guide decision making</p>	<p>How could other people's religious values influence my life? How should I live my life?</p>