Subject: KS1 Year B RE and World Views – Christianity Church

Key Question (to be used all year): How do we respond to the things that really matter?

Focus Question (for this investigation): What unites the Christian community?

PoS aims from Lancashire SACRE:

• Key features = Worship, the church and use of symbols

In this unit, children should explore the core beliefs and symbols of Christianity. They should know that belief in one God and Jesus Christ unite the Christian community and that the cross is an important Christian symbol. This should build on their previous learning about symbolism contained in the idea of Jesus as 'the light of the world'.

They should learn about the importance of the church as a place to bring together the community for worship and Christian fellowship. Children should be able to talk about key aspects of worship such as prayer, use of music and readings from the Bible.

Children should also have opportunities to consider why people might want to be part of a community and the shared values and interests that bring people together. They should be able to talk about communities that they belong to and what unites them with others.

Prior Learning (what pupils already know and can do)

This should build on their previous learning about symbolism contained in the idea of Jesus as 'the light of the world' from this year. In EYFS, children became familiar with symbols such as the cross and how communities unite.

Long-term Learning (what pupils MUST know and remember) END GOALS

- To know that many Christians are united by the shared belief that God made the world and that he sent his son, Jesus, to save them
- To understand that many Christians think it is important to come together to worship God (it can make them feel closer to God and unite them with the Christian community)
- To understand that many Christians worship together in different ways including praying, singing, sharing holy communion and reading from the Bible
- To understand that churches are often used to unite a local community; they will hold events like sales or coffee mornings and host different groups and clubs
- To recognise that churches can look very different but they share many of the same features such as pulpits, candles, and baptismal fonts or pools.
- To know that the main symbols of Christianity include a cross, a dove and a candle; these represent the main shared beliefs of Christians

Disciplinary knowledge (on-going for the year)

- Retell and suggest meanings for religious stories and/or beliefs
- Use some religious words and phrases when talking about beliefs and values
- Identify and describe how religion is expressed in different ways
- Suggest the symbolic meaning of imagery and actions
- Identify things that influence a person's sense of identity and belonging
- Ask relevant questions
- Talk about their own identity and value

Key Vocabulary

• God, Jesus, Cross, symbols, unite, community, worship, symbols, church,

Session 1: What are the main Christian symbols and what do they represent?

Children to discuss familiar symbols from a non-religious standpoint and learn the main Christian symbols. To understand that symbols show the shared beliefs of Christians.

Core Knowledge

• To know that the main symbols of Christianity include a cross, a dove and a candle; these represent the main shared beliefs of Christians

Suggested activities/ Teacher subject knowledge

• Shared understanding: Look at a range of signs, symbols and logos from everyday life – talk about how these reflect a message or a set of values. Discuss why people might sometimes want to use symbols rather than words. For example, you could investigate an emblem relevant to your local community. You could discuss the Everton Football Club logo shows an historic tower that is important to the local community and has a Latin phrase (Nil satis nisi optimum which means "Nothing but the best is good enough"). Look at Warrington Wolves logo – what could the wolf represent? What about the colour choice?

- Look at a selection of Christian symbols. These should include:
 - the cross (reminds of the sacrifice Jesus made)
 - o the dove (a symbol of peace and hope but also of the Holy Spirit)
 - a candle (Jesus being the light of the world link to prior learning)
 - o the holy trinity symbol (God is made of 3 entities Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
 - o the fish symbol (the Ichthus represents the phrase of 'Jesus Christ God's Son is Saviour' and originates from the Greek word for fish)
- Match each symbol to a description of the belief shown and use these symbols to ask children to summarise the main beliefs of Christianity in their own words I.e. Christians believe that Jesus died on the cross to save them from their sins ...

Vocabulary: symbols, cross, values

Session 2: Where can we find symbols in a church and why are they there?

Learn that there are many different symbols that are used in Christian worship to remind Christians of their main beliefs and values.

Core Knowledge.

- To know that Christians are united by the shared belief that God made the world and that he sent his son, Jesus, to save them
- To know that the main symbols of Christianity include a cross, a dove and a candle, these represent the main shared beliefs of Christians
- To recognise that churches can look very different but they share many of the same features such as pulpits, candles, and baptismal fonts or pools.

Suggested Activities/Teacher subject knowledge

Look at a range of photos of different types of Christian churches – both inside and out- (Cathedrals, small village churches, Methodist churches) – allow the children to investigate similarities and differences. Discuss how the central beliefs are evident in the church building e.g. the cross is visible, a baptismal font or pool, a pulpit

- 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. Some common shapes for churches are:
 - o Cruciform 'Cruciform' means cross-shaped. This design highlights the importance of Jesus' death on the cross.
 - Barn style A barn style church is rectangular in shape, allowing the eye to be drawn to the front of the church where the pulpit is the focal point. This style is used by denominations who focus on the importance of preaching the word of God.
 - Circular Some modern designs are built in the shape of a circle or oval. This shape can convey the idea that all people who worship in the building are of equal importance. Some modern designs of Roman Catholic churches have the altar in the centre of a circular building to show that the Mass is the central part of worship.
- Identify the main features of a church and their use or symbolism e.g. pulpit, lectern, pews, font, candles, stained glass windows/images, alter, bell tower

Vocabulary: symbols, cross,

Session 3: What symbols can we spot in a local church?

To learn about the importance of the church as a place to bring together the community for worship and Christian fellowship. To identify Christian symbols in the church and explain what these mean.

Core Knowledge

- To understand that Christians think it is important to come together to worship God because it can make them feel closer to God and unite them with other members of the Christian community
- To recognise that churches can look very different but they share many of the same features such as pulpits, candles, and baptismal fonts or pools.
- To know that the main symbols of Christianity include a cross, a dove and a candle; these represent the main shared beliefs of Christians

Suggested activities/Teacher subject knowledge

- Visit a local church and walk around it spotting symbols and features take pictures so you can annotate later
- Speak to the church leader if possible about the different features and what happens at each one
- This could link to History and be based upon the visit to Lewis Carrol's church in All Saints Church Daresbury

Session 4: Why do Christians go to church and how do they worship?

Children learn about how and why Christians come together in church and the importance of Christian worship.

Core Knowledge

- To know that Christians are united by the shared belief that God made the world and that he sent his son, Jesus, to save them
- To understand that Christians think it is important to come together to worship God because it can make them feel closer to God and unite them with other members of the Christian community
- To understand that Christians worship together in different ways including praying, singing, sharing holy communion and reading from the Bible
- To understand that churches are used to unite a local community; they will hold events like sales or coffee mornings and host different groups and clubs

Suggested activities/ Teacher subject knowledge

- Ask the children to discuss why people might go to church e.g. for weddings, funerals etc.
- Look at the verse from Matthew's Gospel "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" Matthew 18:20 discuss what 'my name' means and who will be among them. Relate to the idea that having a place of worship is important for Christians as it provides the opportunity to feel closer to God, to meet other Christians with the same beliefs and to feel like a part of a community of believers who regularly come together to express their faith.
- Discuss the word 'worship' and what it means. Worship = To show devotion (commitment) to God and/or religion through actions for example, prayer.
- Watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5-aKSrLXM4 Based on the video, discuss Christian worship and how it unites members of the Christian community—including the importance of singing.

Vocabulary: worship, unite, community, prayer

Session 5: How can churches unite communities?

To learn how the church provides a place for Christians to meet and worship, but also provides a space for other community groups to unite.

Core Knowledge

- To understand that Christians think it is important to come together to worship God because it can make them feel closer to God and unite them with other members of the Christian community
- To understand that churches are used to unite a local community; they will hold events like sales or coffee mornings and host different groups and clubs

Suggested Activities

- Discuss how the primary role of a church is to provide Christians a place to meet and worship.
- Churches often provide a place for the local community to hold events or perform outreach work. Christians believe that they should 'love their neighbour'.
- This outreach work in the local community can include food banks, hosting local groups or clubs e.g. art clubs or scouts/guiding, offering support the homeless in their area.
- Sometimes outreach work can lead to people becoming interested in the church and in Christianity.

Vocabulary: worship, unite, community, prayer

Session 6: How do we help to unite our own community?

Self-reflection: How do we help to unite our own community? - Children consider the idea of uniting communities from a religious and non-religious perspective, looking at their own local area

Suggested activities

- List the various communities that pupils belong to and discuss why it is important to feel a sense of belonging. What communities matter most to pupils and why?
- Discussion Look at your school website does the design and any photos used on the site reflect your school

community's values? What unites your school/your class as a community? What events bring your community together and contribute to a sense of unity?

Future learning this content supports:

Children will continue to explore symbolism. The notion of community is further investigated in LKS2 when we consider 'who we should follow?' (this unit focuses on how communities are impacted by leaders) and in UKS2 when we consider 'if life is a journey' (this unit focuses on the importance of communities within our lives).