

Glazebury CE Primary School

Creative and Challenging

Quest Full RE

This Religious Education syllabus is a revision of the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education RE syllabus 2007. Building on the foundation of the 2007 syllabus we have updated and redesigned the content to ensure that you and your staff are equipped to be able to deliver the highest quality Religious Education.

As church schools the standard of our Religious Education provision should be nothing less than brilliant and its impact should be visible in all areas of the curriculum and school life. Religious Education makes a significant contribution to the Christian ethos of the school and should therefore be considered as a priority when writing development plans and setting budgets, arranging timetables and staffing.

It is hoped that the content of this syllabus will give pupils a sense of being on a quest of discovery. A key feature of the syllabus is the large number of questions included in each unit. The purpose of these questions is to give pupils opportunity to investigate, reflect, evaluate and make meaning. In doing so they will discover more about themselves, their relationships with others, their relationship with the world around them and their relationship with God. Therefore the teaching of Religious Education is both a huge responsibility and a privilege that must be recognised by those who teach it.

In church schools this quest for discovery takes place within a living and active faith community, where questions about faith and belief should be encouraged. The faith school community naturally guides young people to discover answers to their questions. In addition, pupils need to have experience of a range of mainstream worldwide Christian denominations and other world faiths. Teachers using this syllabus are encouraged to give pupils as many first hand sensory experiences as possible. Pupils need to see, hear, touch, taste and smell authentic Christianity and the other world faiths as they study.

In an Anglican/ Methodist school, Religious Education is rooted in the message of the Gospel and the living faith of the school. However, it must be made clear that it is not the role of Religious Education to indoctrinate or evangelise.

Taught within an environment where Christianity is witnessed and experienced in action, pupils will experience, explore and encounter a wide range of creative and challenging activities that will help them to discover the answers to ultimate questions such as these:-

Who am I and what does it mean to be me?

In what ways do/can I relate to others?

How/where can I encounter God?

How can I make a positive contribution to the world in which I live?

What values, attitudes, beliefs and behaviour are important to me?

What does it mean to have faith?

Who/what influences and inspires me?

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The aims of Religious Education in Church school are:-ⁱ

- To enable pupils to encounter Christianity as the religion that shape British culture and heritage and influences the lives of millions of people today;
- To enable pupils to learn about the other major religions, their impact on culture and politics, art and history, and on the lives of their adherents;
- To develop understanding of a religious faith as the search for and expression of truth;
- To contribute to the development of pupil's own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own faith and beliefs.

The outcomes for pupils at the end of their education in church schools are that they are able to:-ⁱⁱ

- Think theologically and explore ultimate questions;
- Reflect critically on the truth claims of Christian belief;
- Develop the skills to analyse, interpret and apply the Bible text;
- Recognise that faith is a particular of understanding and responding to God and the world;
- Analyse and explain the varied nature and traditions of the Christian community;
- Make a well informed response to Christianity;
- Respect those of all faiths in their search for God;
- Reflect critically on the on all areas of shared belief and practice between different faiths;
- Enrich and expand their understanding of truth;
- Reflect critically and express their views on the human quest and destiny.

This syllabus contains a clear Christian emphasis. Many of the learning objectives have been written from the point of view that "**we believe**", because this is a Church School Syllabus and **we do** believe. However it is recognised that teachers will have to be sensitive to the other faith backgrounds of their pupils.

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Religious education should be taught to all registered pupils in maintained schools except for those withdrawn by their parents. RE is a component of the basic curriculum to be taught alongside the national curriculum in all maintained schools. For Voluntary Aided Church of England and Methodist schools the RE offered is to be determined by the governors in accordance with the Trust Deed. Funding agreements stipulate that all academies are required to teach RE Church of England or Methodist Academies will teach RE in line with the denominational syllabus.

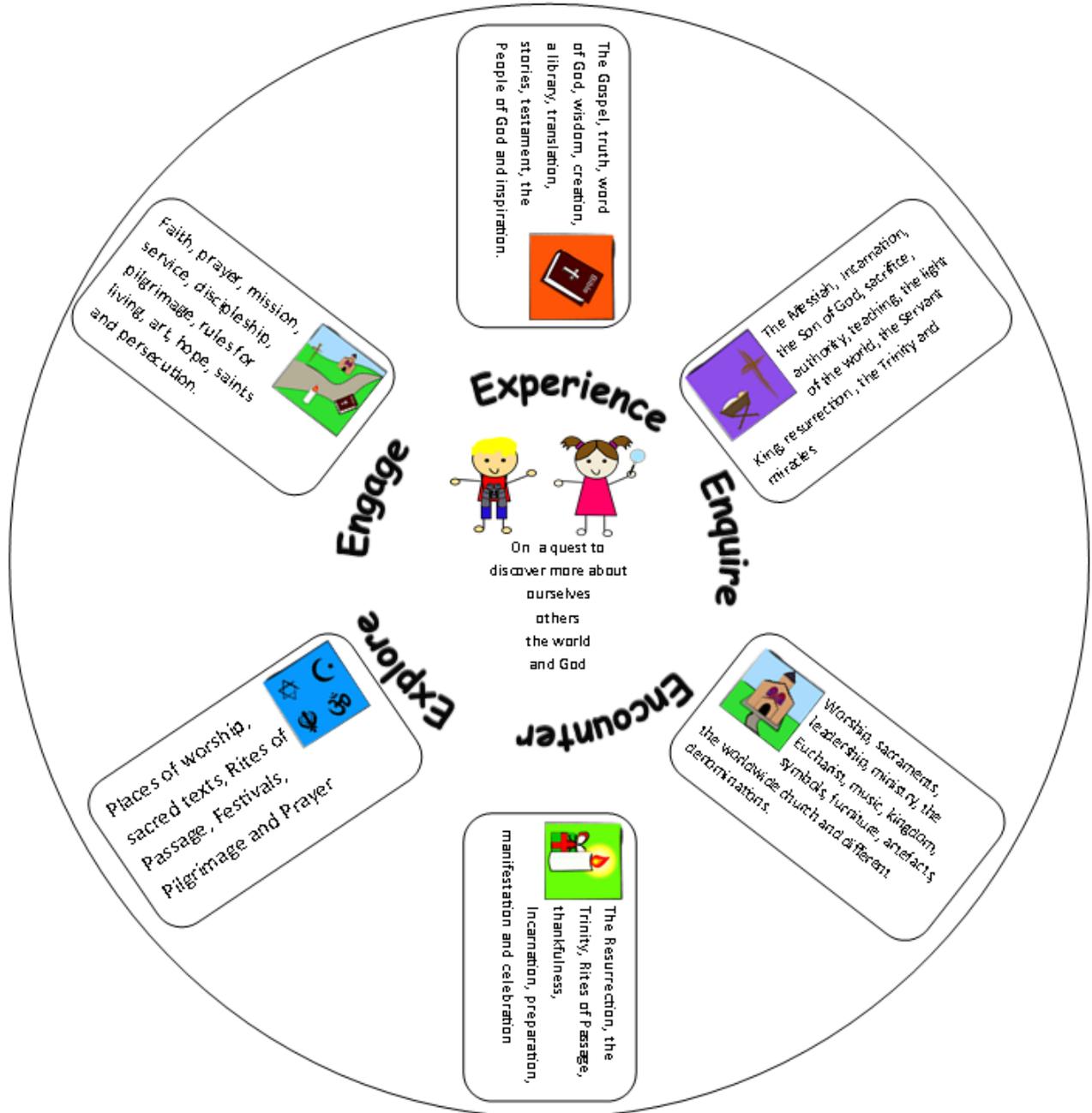
Liverpool Diocesan Board of Education hope that Governors in all our schools and academies will choose this recommended Syllabus.

The Diocesan Board of Education also makes the following recommendations to Governing Bodies:-

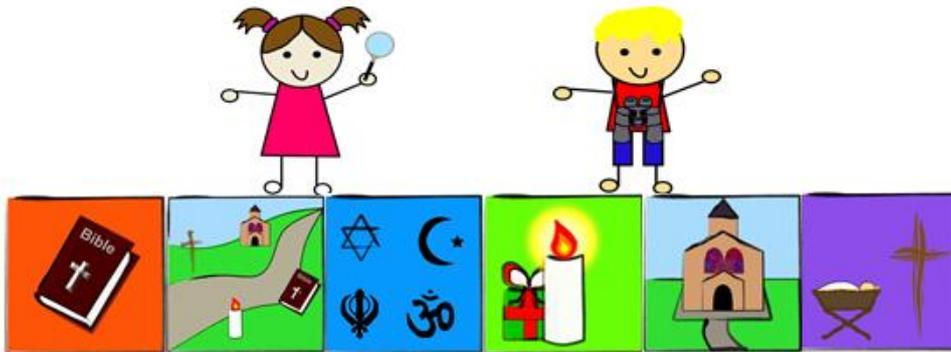
- a) That the amount of time allocated to Religious Education should be at least 5%. This is the minimum recommended in national guidelines. There will be occasions when Religious Education takes a larger slice of the curriculum, reflecting the Church School's greater commitment to the subject.
- b) That out of the curriculum time for Religious Education, Christianity should occupy a minimum of **70%** of the time, up to a maximum of **80%**. Therefore, **20%** to **30%** of Religious Education Curriculum time should be devoted to non-Christian faiths. The guidance given in this syllabus leads to an 80/20 split.
- c) That as well as Christianity pupils should study aspects of the practices and beliefs of the other five major world faiths. (Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism.) Guidance is given in the syllabus overviews and units as to appropriate content and length of time for this study.
- d) The Governing Body should nominate a member to be responsible for overseeing the school's RE provision and standards.

Syllabus Content

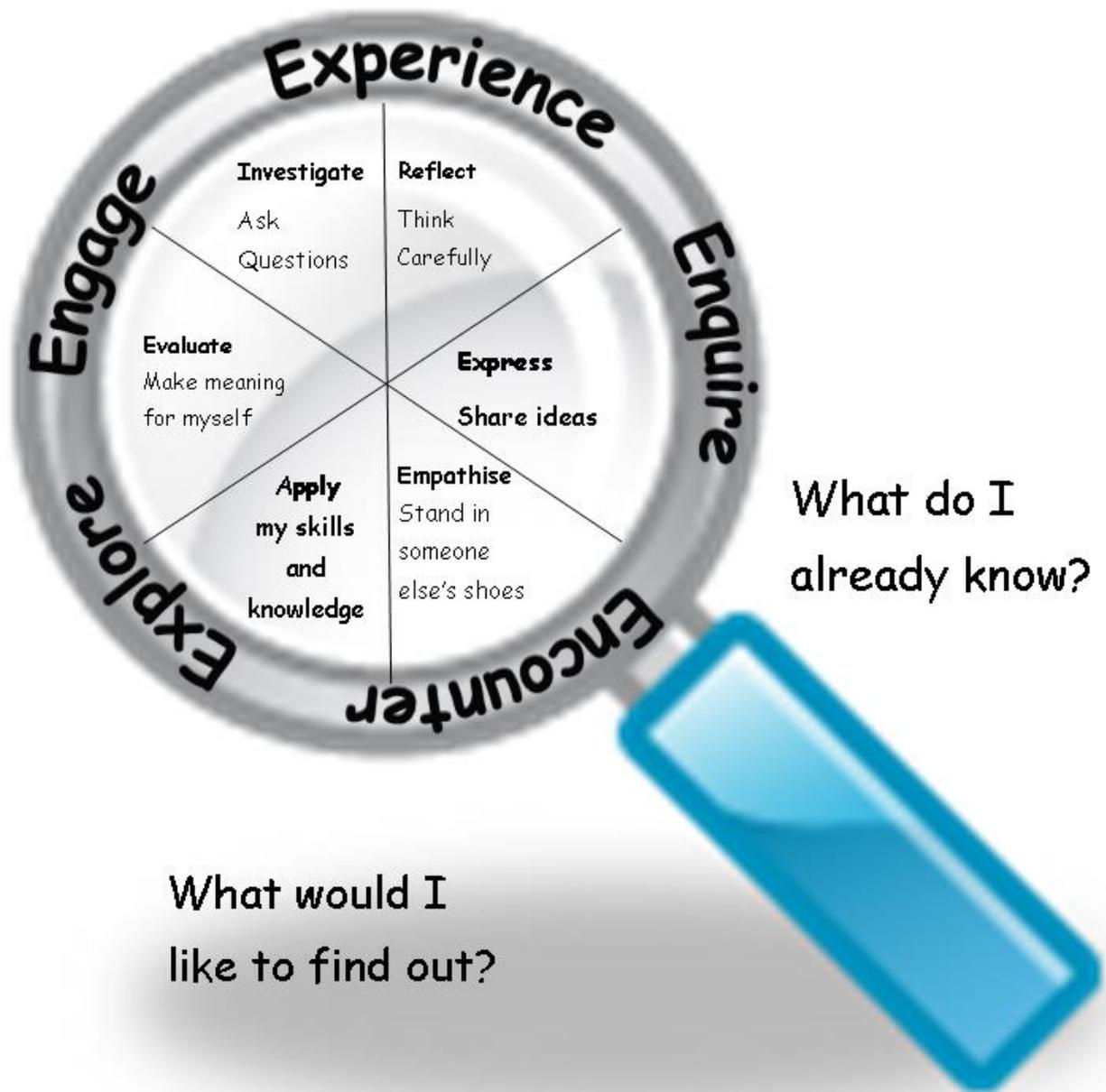
We're on a quest to discover more about.....



We're going on a quest.



The skills we will use



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ⁱ Nicola Sylvester (2011) *Religious Education in Church of England Schools A statement of Entitlement from the Board of Education/National Society Council*

ⁱⁱ Ibid