The Emmanuel Project: An RE scheme for Primary Schools

**49 enquiry-based units for teaching RE across the primary school from Reception to Year 6. These units match the requirements of the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus for RE 2023 and support excellent RE teaching nationally.**

Known as the Emmanuel Project because it began as a response to Ofsted’s criticism of the teaching of Christianity, this scheme provides challenging but enjoyable material for teaching about 6 major religions and Humanism. It is based on clear theological concepts / exploring text or narrative, connects with faith community life, and looks at impact on an individual’s life.

All units were written and trialled by outstanding teachers, with the help of the local Diocesan Schools’ Adviser and members of faith communities. They are already used effectively in all types of school: community, church and free schools as well as academies, and are recommended in a number of counties and diocese outside Suffolk.

**The 2020 version** contains 29 units on Christianity and 20 on other world faiths. The titles of the units are given below, each framed as a key question which acts as a driver for the unit. Outlines of the complete scheme of work are also provided. Several additional units have been produced in response to the new 2023 Suffolk Agreed Syllabus.

The **2020 version** contains a ‘Teacher Handbook’ which outlines content and progression for each phase and religion. ‘Before you start’ pages support teachers and Resource lists include weblinks. End of unit and end of year assessment materials include quick quizzes based on Blooms Taxonomy, and Solo Taxonomy hexagons. EYFS and KS1 units have ‘letters’ from imaginary children of the faith to help teachers deliver the religious content in a more child-friendly way. EYFS units are based on Christianity but also include stories from other world religions.

The resource costs £250.00 to new buyers / £100.00 to those who bought the previous edition. To see some sample units, order the project, or find out about training, see:

<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/resources-and-information/religious-education/emmanuelproject/>

An Emmanuel Project facebook page will link you to work others have done and allow you to post your own pupils work!

**2020 Emmanuel Project units:**

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| **Early Years FS:*** *Based on Christianity with an example from another faith in each unit (Judaism, Islam, Sikhism, Hinduism and Buddhism)*
 | * Why is the word ‘God’ so important to Christians?
* Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?
* How can we help others when they need it?
* Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?
* What makes every single person unique and precious?
* How can we care for our wonderful world?
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| **Christianity units - KS1** | * Why is belonging to God and the church family important to Christians?
* What did Jesus teach about God in his parables?
* Why do Christians pray to God and worship him?
* How does celebrating Pentecost remind Christians that God is with them always?
* Why was Jesus given the name ‘saviour’?
* What are the best symbols of Jesus’ resurrection at Easter?
* Why do Christians trust Jesus and follow him?
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| **Judaism units – KS1** | * Why is the Torah such a joy for the Jewish Community?
* Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year?
* Why do Jewish families say so many prayers and blessings?
* Why is learning to do good deeds so important to Jewish families?
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| **Islam unit – KS1** | * How do some Muslims show Allah is compassionate and merciful?
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| **Christianity units – LKS2** | * How do Christians show that reconciliation with God and other people is important?
* Why is the cross more than a symbol of sacrifice?
* What do Christians mean when they talk about the Kingdom of God?
* How does believing Jesus is their saviour inspire Christians to save and serve others?
* Why do Christians believe they are people on a mission?
* Why are good stewardship and generous giving important for every Christian?
* Why do Christians call themselves the ‘Body of Christ’?
* What difference did Paul’s conversion on the Damascus road make to Christians?
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| **Judaism unit – LKS2** | * What symbols and stories help Jewish people remember their covenant with God?
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| **Islam units – LKS2** | * How does a Muslim show their submission and obedience to Allah?
* Why do Muslims call Muhammad the ‘Seal of the Prophets’?
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| **Hinduism units – LKS2** | * Why does a Hindu want to collect good karma?
* How does the story of Rama and Sita inspire Hindus to follow their dharma?
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| **Sikhism units - LKS2** | * How does the teaching of the gurus move Sikhs from dark to light?
* How do Sikhs put their beliefs about equality into practice?
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| **Christianity units – UKS2** | * Why is the gospel such good news for Christians?
* What is the great significance of the Eucharist for Christians?
* How do Christians show their belief that Jesus is God incarnate?
* Should believing in the resurrection change how Christians view life and death?
* When Christians need real wisdom where do they look for it?
* Why do Christians think being a pilgrim is a good analogy for life itself?
* How do the ‘Heroes of Faith’ encourage Christians today?
* How do Christians try to capture the mystery of God as Trinity?
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| **Judaism unit – UKS2** | * What is holiness for Jewish people: a place, a time, an object, or something else?
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| **Islam units – UKS2** | * What does the Qur’an reveal about Allah and his guidance?
* How does tawhid create a sense of belonging to the Muslim community?
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| **Hinduism units – UKS2** | * What spiritual pathways to Moksha are written about in Hindu scriptures?
* How do questions about Brahman and atman influence the way a Hindu lives?
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| **Buddhism units – UKS2** | * How did Buddha teach his followers to find enlightenment?
* How does the Triple Refuge help Buddhists in their journey through life?
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| **Humanism unit – UKS2** | * Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?
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