

RE What does it mean to belong to a faith community?

Year 1

Summer 2

Key Knowledge

Many people feel as though they belong to a range of different groups – their family, school, team etc. Often people wear certain symbols or uniforms to show they are part of such a group.

Christian symbols include a cross or crucifix, a ICHTHUS, a rosary etc. These are all linked to Jesus and shows that they belong to Jesus and he belongs to them. Christians believe that God cares for all humans and brings them together when they are lost.

A Christian child will often be baptised or christened to officially welcome them into the church.

Muslims do not use symbols and images, but they do use patterns and Arabic writing or calligraphy. Many Muslims learn to read Arabic which is the language they believe Allah (God) gave his messages to the Prophet Muhammad in. This helps give them a shared identity.

When a baby is born into a Muslim family, the words “Allahu Akbar” (God is great) is whispered into their ear and their head is shaved. This welcomes them into the Muslim community.

Jewish people share a special day every week called Shabbat. One this day many Jewish families share a special meal with each other where they eat challah bread and drink kiddush wine. This helps them feel part of their family and also the wider Jewish community as they are all doing the same thing.

Marriage is one way that some people choose to show they belong to others. People make promises to be there for each other for the rest of their lives.

Key images



Possible experiences

Share a Shabbat meal and try the Challah bread

Invite a visitor in to share their experiences of the community

Enfield SACRE Statutory requirements

- A1 - Recall and name different beliefs and practices, including festivals, worship, rituals and ways of life, in order to find out about the meanings behind them.
- A3 - Recognise some different symbols and actions which express a community’s way of life, appreciating some similarities between communities
- C2 - Find out about and respond with ideas to examples of co-operation between people who are different.

Prior learning

- In EYFS, children will have gained some knowledge of stories, people, places, and times that are special within different religions.
- Previously in Year 1, they will have learnt about some different religious festivals and places that give people a sense of community. They will have some deeper understanding of Muslims and Christians.

Key vocabulary

Spelling	Definition
Belonging	A feeling of inclusion and support
Community	A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common
Cross/Crucifix	A symbol representing the sacrifice Jesus gave for Christians
ICHTHUS	A special symbol, similar to a fish, for early Christians
Rosary	A Catholic form of prayer using bead
Arabic	The language spoken in many Middle Eastern and North African countries. The Qur’an is written in Arabic and Muslims recite Arabic when praying.
Allah	The Arabic word for God.
Calligraphy	A special style of handwriting
Shabbat	The Jewish day of rest.
Challah	A braided bread eaten on Shabbat

Possible deeper thinking questions

What do you belong to?

Is everyone in a community the same?

Is it important to be part of a community?