Dawn House School: Culture Progression Map

Engage, Develop, Communicate, Aspire



(D1 - D9) Primary 1:

Exploration of Diversity:

- Introducing children to diverse cultures, traditions, and beliefs from around the world.
- Promoting understanding and respect for different religious and non-religious perspectives.

Awareness of Symbols and Practices:

- Introducing basic religious symbols, rituals, and practices from different faith traditions.
- Encouraging curiosity and questions about the significance of these symbols in different religions.

Introduction to Stories and Narratives:

- Sharing simple stories and parables from various religious and cultural traditions.
- Exploring themes of kindness, compassion, and morality through storytelling.

Development of Values and Morals:

- Fostering empathy, kindness, and respect towards others.
- Encouraging children to reflect on their own actions and consider the feelings of others.

Understanding Festivals and Celebrations:

- Introducing major religious festivals and celebrations from different faiths.
- Exploring the cultural and religious significance of these festivals through arts, crafts, and storytelling.

Exploration of Nature and the Environment:

- Connecting spirituality with nature through activities such as observing plants, animals, and the changing seasons.
- Encouraging a sense of wonder and awe about the natural world.

(D1 - D9) Primary 2: Exploration of Diversity:

- Building upon the understanding of diverse cultures, traditions, and beliefs introduced in EYFS.
- Exploring specific religious traditions and practices in more depth, such as Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, or Judaism.

Understanding of Religious Symbols and Practices:

- Learning about the meanings and significance of religious symbols, rituals, and practices within different faith traditions.
- Exploring how these symbols and practices are observed in everyday life and during religious ceremonies.

Introduction to Sacred Texts and Stories:

- Introducing simplified versions of sacred texts, stories, and parables from various religious traditions.
- Discussing the moral and ethical lessons conveyed in these stories and their relevance to everyday life.

Development of Values and Morals:

- Continuing to foster empathy, kindness, and respect towards others.
- Encouraging students to reflect on moral dilemmas and make connections between their actions and their impact on others.

Understanding of Festivals and Celebrations:

- Learning about major religious festivals and celebrations associated with different faiths.
- Exploring the cultural and religious significance of these festivals through stories, crafts, and roleplaying activities.

Exploration of Diversity:

 Deepening understanding of diverse cultures, traditions, and beliefs from around the world.

(D1 - D9) Junior:

• Exploring specific religious traditions and their practices, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and Judaism.

Understanding of Religious Symbols and Practices:

- Exploring the meanings and significance of religious symbols, rituals, and practices within different faith traditions.
- Investigating how these symbols and practices are observed in different contexts, including religious ceremonies and everyday life.

Engagement with Sacred Texts and Stories:

- Introducing more complex stories and parables from various religious traditions, including key figures and events.
- Discussing the moral and ethical lessons conveyed in these stories and their relevance to personal and community life.

Development of Values and Morals:

- Continuing to foster empathy, kindness, and respect towards others.
- Encouraging students to apply moral principles and ethical values in their interactions with peers and in decision-making.

Understanding of Festivals and Celebrations:

- Deepening knowledge of major religious festivals and celebrations across different faiths.
- Exploring the cultural and religious significance of these festivals through historical context, religious narratives, and cultural practices.

Promotion of Inclusion and Acceptance:

- Creating an inclusive and welcoming environment where children feel valued regardless of their background or beliefs.
- Encouraging cooperation and friendship among children from diverse backgrounds.

Introduction to Prayer and Meditation:

- Introducing simple prayers, mindfulness exercises, or moments of reflection suitable for young children.
- Teaching children about the importance of stillness and quiet contemplation.

Development of Cultural Awareness:

- Introducing children to cultural customs, traditions, and practices from different parts of the world.
- Exploring similarities and differences between cultures and religions in a respectful manner.

Promotion of Respectful Dialogue:

- Teaching children to listen respectfully to others and express their own thoughts and feelings in a constructive manner.
- Encouraging open-mindedness and tolerance towards different viewpoints.

Introduction to Ethics and Morality:

- Introducing basic ethical concepts such as fairness, honesty, and kindness.
- Encouraging children to consider ethical questions and dilemmas in age-appropriate ways.

Exploration of Spiritual Concepts:

- Introducing basic spiritual concepts such as the existence of God, the soul, and the afterlife in ageappropriate ways.
- Encouraging students to express their thoughts and feelings about these concepts through creative activities.

Promotion of Inclusion and Acceptance:

- Continuing to create an inclusive and respectful learning environment where students feel valued regardless of their background or beliefs.
- Encouraging students to celebrate diversity and appreciate the contributions of individuals from different cultural and religious backgrounds.

Introduction to Prayer and Meditation:

- Introducing simple prayers, mindfulness exercises, or moments of reflection suitable for young children.
- Exploring the concept of prayer as a way to express gratitude, seek guidance, or connect with a higher power.

Development of Cultural Awareness:

- Deepening students' understanding of cultural customs, traditions, and practices from various parts of the world.
- Exploring similarities and differences between cultures and religions through stories, music and food.

Exploration of Spiritual Concepts:

- Introducing more complex spiritual concepts such as belief in God, creation myths, and the concept of the divine.
- Encouraging students to reflect on their own spirituality and beliefs through creative expression and personal reflection.

Promotion of Inclusion and Acceptance:

- Reinforcing the importance of inclusivity and respect for diversity within the classroom and broader community.
- Encouraging students to appreciate and celebrate the unique contributions of individuals from different cultural and religious backgrounds.

Critical Thinking and Inquiry Skills:

- Encouraging students to ask questions, explore their own beliefs, and critically evaluate information about religion and spirituality.
- Fostering curiosity and open-mindedness towards different religious and philosophical perspectives.

Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity:

- Developing a deeper understanding of cultural customs, traditions, and values from various religious and non-religious perspectives.
- Encouraging students to engage respectfully with individuals from diverse backgrounds and to appreciate cultural differences.

(D9 - D11) Key Stage 3:

Exploration of Diversity:

- Deepening understanding of diverse religious traditions, beliefs, and practices from around the world.
- Exploring the historical and cultural contexts that have shaped various religious traditions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Judaism, and others.

Interpretation of Religious Symbols and Practices:

- Analysing the meanings and significance of religious symbols, rituals, and practices within different faith traditions.
- Investigating how religious beliefs and practices influence individual and community identities.

Engagement with Sacred Texts and Stories:

- Studying significant sacred texts and stories from various religious traditions, including their historical and cultural contexts.
- Exploring themes such as creation, morality, justice, and redemption as depicted in religious narratives.

Development of Values and Morals:

- Reflecting on moral and ethical principles derived from religious teachings and secular philosophies.
- Applying moral reasoning skills to real-life scenarios and ethical dilemmas, considering multiple perspectives and consequences.

Understanding of Festivals and Celebrations:

- Investigating the cultural and religious significance of major festivals and celebrations across different faiths.
- Exploring the rituals, symbols, and traditions associated with these festivals and their roles in fostering community cohesion and identity.

Exploration of Spiritual Concepts:

- Investigating more complex spiritual concepts, such as transcendence, salvation, enlightenment, and the nature of the soul.
- Reflecting on personal spirituality and the search for meaning and purpose in life.

Promotion of Inclusion and Respect:

- Emphasizing the importance of tolerance, empathy, and respect for diversity in a pluralistic society.
- Challenging stereotypes and prejudices through dialogue and critical reflection.

(D11 - D13) Key Stage 3:

Understanding of Religious Diversity:

- Exploring in-depth the beliefs, practices, and customs of major world religions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Judaism and others.
- Examining the historical, cultural, and geographical contexts that have shaped religious traditions.

Analysis of Religious Texts and Sources:

- Engaging with sacred texts, scriptures, and other religious sources to understand their meanings, interpretations, and significance within different religious traditions.
- Developing skills in textual analysis, including identifying themes, symbols, and literary devices.

Ethical Inquiry and Debate:

- Investigating ethical issues and moral dilemmas from religious and secular perspectives.
- Engaging in reasoned debate and dialogue about controversial ethical topics, such as social justice, human rights, and environmental responsibility.

Exploration of Religious and Philosophical Concepts:

- Examining complex religious and philosophical concepts, such as the nature of God, free will, destiny, the afterlife, and the problem of evil.
- Reflecting critically on these concepts and considering their implications for personal belief systems and moral decision-making.

Reflection on Personal Spirituality and Identity:

- Encouraging students to reflect on their own spiritual beliefs, values, and experiences.
- Exploring questions of identity, meaning, and purpose in relation to religious and philosophical perspectives.

Comparative Religion and Interfaith Dialogue:

- Comparing and contrasting different religious beliefs, practices, and worldviews.
- Fostering understanding, respect, and empathy for individuals from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds through interfaith dialogue and collaboration.

Engagement with Contemporary Religious Issues:

- Investigating contemporary religious issues and debates, such as religious extremism, religious freedom, and the role of religion in public life.
- Analysing the impact of globalization, technology, and social change on religious communities and beliefs.

Introduction to Religious Ethics:

- Exploring ethical theories and principles within religious and philosophical traditions.
- Discussing contemporary ethical issues from a variety of religious and secular perspectives.

Critical Thinking and Inquiry Skills:

- Developing critical thinking skills through the analysis and evaluation of religious texts, arguments, and ethical dilemmas.
- Encouraging students to ask probing questions and engage in reasoned debate about religious and moral issues.

Cultural Literacy and Global Awareness:

- Deepening understanding of global interconnectedness and the diverse ways in which religion shapes societies and cultures.
- Examining the impact of religious beliefs and practices on historical events, social movements, and contemporary issues.

Development of Critical Thinking and Analytical Skills:

- Developing skills in critical thinking, reasoning, and analysis through the examination of religious texts, arguments and evidence.
- Evaluating the reliability and credibility of sources of religious knowledge and information.

Promotion of Social and Moral Responsibility:

- Encouraging students to consider their role as responsible global citizens and ethical decision-makers.
- Exploring ways in which religious and moral principles can inform actions aimed at promoting social justice, equality and peace.

Cultural Literacy and Global Citizenship:

- Deepening understanding of cultural diversity and global interconnectedness.
- Cultivating empathy, respect, and appreciation for cultural differences and similarities.