



## The New Surrey Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2023-2028)

### An Introduction

The syllabus covers the Reception year to Key Stage Four, with guidance for post-16 settings.

#### Who is this syllabus for?

All community and VC Church schools in Surrey.

VA schools in the Diocese of Guildford.

Many academies in Surrey have chosen to use this syllabus.

Independent schools and schools that do not have to use their own locally agreed syllabus are also welcome to use this syllabus.

#### What has changed?

1. There are now 6 units a year, 1 for each half term.
2. Secondary schools should organise their curriculum in ways that suit their context; the syllabus offers examples of how the statutory content could be taught.
3. Across the Primary age range, for each year there are 5 compulsory units and one thematic unit, which teachers select from a menu.
4. In the compulsory units, faiths and beliefs are taught discretely.
5. The thematic units pull the learning from the year together and offer opportunities for new learning to fit with the question that frames the unit e.g. *Are words more important than actions?*
6. All units in the Primary phase have six key questions to guide the learning.
7. The support materials, which are non-statutory (and therefore may be adapted to suit local contexts), resources and video tutorials are on [GDBE-elevate](#) which is the Diocese of Guildford bespoke training and document portal. Teachers need a log-in to access the materials. Register [here](#) if you need to.



#### New terminology



**Golden Threads:** These multi-disciplinary strands run through the curriculum to provide balanced RE.

**Theology**, for which we use the term **'God'** in the Primary phase.

**Sociology**, for which we use the term **'Community'** in the Primary phase..

**Philosophy**, for which we use the term **'Identity'** in the Primary phase..

You can find out more about how we have interpreted these threads in the syllabus document.



**Personal knowledge:** An understanding that none of us approach any learning from a completely neutral viewpoint. This [short animation](#) is helpful in explaining how we have interpreted this in our syllabus.



**Worldviews:** An understanding that faiths and beliefs are understood and lived out in different ways in different communities both locally and globally.