

Key Learning Objectives:
By the end of this unit I will:

- Be able to show an understanding of the influence of Buddhism and Christianity on individuals, communities and societies
- Be able to support my responses using appropriate knowledge and understanding of key sources of wisdom and sacred texts
- Be able to show an understanding of different perspectives
- Be able to show an understanding of the role of the vihara for Buddhists
- Be able to show an understanding of the role of Christian worship
- Be able to show an understanding of the place of Buddhism and Christianity within the UK today

How will my LEARNING be assessed?

- Regular Recap quizzes
- GCSE style questions

How can parents support my LEARNING?

- Ask me to explain what I have learned and what I need to do to work well in lessons
- Discuss topical issues relating to religion today
- Encourage me to review my RE work regularly
- Encourage me to take photographs of any excellent work during the lesson/any time I have been awarded a place in the inspiration box/received positive feedback
- Remind me of the relevance of RE skills in work and life in general

Key Facts to LEARN:

Although we talk about "worship", Buddhists focus on the Buddha as an example; he isn't worshipped.

Viharas (temples) are places for worship and community events.

In Tibet, prayer flags are used to send "prayers" and good will wishes to deities by wind.

In Tibetan Buddhism, bodhisattvas are beings who have become enlightened but choose to be reborn instead of becoming Buddhas, so that they can help other beings achieve enlightenment.

Christianity is based on the belief that a god, which exists outside space and time, created the universe and everything in it. We are like this god in some ways, we have an eternal (everlasting) soul and the way we live determines whether our soul has a good afterlife or not.

Many Christians believe that sin and evil exist due to human actions, as a result of having free will.

There are different Christian beliefs about God's purpose for Jesus' execution.

Holy Communion/Mass/ Divine Liturgy is a re-enactment of Jesus' actions of giving bread and wine to his followers at the Last Supper before his execution. There are different Christian beliefs about the bread and wine; for example, some Christians believe the bread and wine literally turn into Jesus' flesh and blood.

Baptism is when adults commit to raising a child as a Christian or when older people commit to living as a Christian. Water is used to symbolize the washing away of sins and the new life that Christians believe Jesus brings.

Links/Extension opportunities:

truetube.co.uk – pupils and parents can register as a guest and access a variety of resources including tours of places for worship and interview with religious believers.

<http://padlet.com/jpomfret/re> (password 'wearde') - this is aimed at GCSE pupils, but will really help all pupils with their subject knowledge and give them an insight into what they could explore further up the school.

Key Terminology:

forgiveness	To stop blaming or being angry with someone for something that person has done, or not punish them for something	dukkha	Suffering, or the idea that life is unsatisfactory and leads to suffering
transformation	To change completely	salvation	Being saved from sin and able to have eternal life
atonement	The belief that Jesus' death on the cross healed the rift between humans and God	symbolism	When something represents something else, having an extra meaning beyond what it is
bikkhu/bhikkhuni	A Buddhist monk/nun	sacrament	A Christian ritual bringing God's grace, e.g. a wedding
arhat/arahant	In Theravada Buddhism, someone who has attained Nirvana	omnipotent	All-powerful

Area	Content
Viharas	What happens at a vihara? How these places for worship are used; meditation, community events like funerals, dana (almsgiving to monks /nuns), study, focal points for "worship".
Prayer flags and bodhisattvas	A brief history of prayer flags in the Himalayas. What are they for? The symbols and mantras on them and how the flags reflect beliefs like karuna, metta, karma and earning merit. What are bodhisattvas? How do they reflect key Buddhist beliefs?
Wesak	Wesak is a celebration of the Buddha's birth, enlightenment (and sometimes his death). What happens? How do these events reflect the importance of the Three Jewels?
What's "God"?	In Christianity, there are different beliefs of what God is, but all Christians agree that God is not an old man who lives on a cloud! How can "God" be described? What is the Trinity?
Creation and The Fall	What might the creation stories in the Bible be telling us? Christian explanations of why there is evil in the world.
Jesus' death and the Eucharist	Why do many Christians take part in the Eucharist (Holy Communion/Mass/Divine Liturgy)? What ideas and beliefs come from Jesus' death? The different way's Jesus death is interpreted.
Baptism	What happens at an infant baptism? What happens at an adult or believer's baptism? The symbols in the ceremony and the church building, how they link to ideas of forgiveness and eternal life.
Salvation and the afterlife	What do Christians believe happens after our physical life is over? Different Christian ideas about an afterlife, what the Bible says, and links to key Christian beliefs.

Vocabulary

metta
karuna
ahimsa
belief
believe
samsara
buddhahood
denomination
right
wrong
skilful
unskilful
purgatory
Eucharist
liberation
allowed
avoid
alms-giving
mantra
merit

Key people/ groups

Vajrayana Buddhists	Vajrayana means "diamond vehicle" or "lightning vehicle". One of the schools (groups) in Vajrayana is Tibetan Buddhism.
The Roman Catholic Church	This church teaches that, during Mass (Eucharist), bread and wine actually become Jesus' flesh and blood.
The Anglican Church	This church teaches that, during Holy Communion (Eucharist), Jesus is spiritually present.
Saint Augustine	A Christian philosopher who said that we are all born sinners due to Adam and Eve's original sin.
John Hick	A Christian philosopher who said that by overcoming evil we can become like God.
The sangha	The Buddhist community. Sometimes this means just monks and nuns, but many Buddhists think of everyone in the Buddhist community as part of the sangha.

