



Topic Overview
 Faculty/Subject: RS
 Year Group: 7
 Topic: Rites of Passage



What BIG IDEAS will you cover in this topic?

Is religion important in society?

We will investigate the role of religious rituals at key moments in life — birth, marriage, and death — across a range of faith traditions. Inspired by *The Island* by Sue Phillips and her Theatre of Learning approach, this topic will explore how religious practices shape ways of life and community identity. Students will consider both the similarities and differences between and within different religions, and reflect on the significance of these rituals in society today.

What other key concepts, knowledge and skills will you learn in this topic?

Students will explore the importance of community and the reasons why humans mark major life events with rituals and festivals. They'll consider questions such as: Why do we need rituals? What role do they play in bringing people together? Are they still necessary in modern society?

Through this topic, students will:

- Compare how different religions celebrate rites of passage.
- Examine the deeper meanings and purposes behind these practices.
- Reflect on the role such rituals play in their own lives and cultures.
- Develop empathy, critical thinking, and respectful understanding of diverse beliefs and traditions.

What important prior knowledge will you use from your prior learning?

We have studied different religions throughout the year, this will bring the learning together.

Where does this topic fit into the curriculum plan for this subject?

Last topic for year 7. Bringing all the knowledge they have learnt together and applying it to an island setting where we look at rituals and practices and investigate their importance.

Assessment:

How and when will you be assessed on this topic? What will the success criteria be?

End of Unit Test focusing on knowledge.

There is an end of year exam towards the end of this term so questions from this topic will be incorporated into that.

What is the key vocabulary that you will need to know in this topic?

Belief	Baptism
Milestones	Font
Rites of Passage	Symbolise
Atheist	Adhan
Agnostic	Brit Milah
Atheist	Vows
Golden Rule	Commitment
Punishment	Ritual
Consequences	Worship
10 Commandments	Pilgrimage
Decalogue	Lourdes

What is the structure of learning/lessons in this topic?

- Lesson 1.** Intro- Setting off
- Lesson 2.** Rules-10 Commandments
- Lesson 3.** Birth-Brit Milah
- Lesson 4.** Marriage
- Lesson 5.** Festivals

