

PROGRAMMES OF STUDY – JUDAISM

KEY STAGE 1

BELIEF

- Jewish belief about God: God is One, God as Creator.
- Introduction to the Shema prayer as expressing key beliefs in Judaism.

AUTHORITY

- The Torah: introduction to the sacred scrolls, what they are and how they are read from and treated with respect (their place in the synagogue).
- Some important stories from the Torah e.g. the story of Creation, Moses and the Burning Bush.
- Important stories in Jewish tradition - the story behind Hanukkah.

EXPRESSIONS OF BELIEF

- Shabbat - how Shabbat is celebrated in the home, symbolic objects used in the home at Shabbat.
- Mezuzah, Menorah, Kippah, Tallit - how they are used and how they are expressions of Jewish belief.
- How Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah.

IMPACT OF BELIEF

- The importance and impact of the home in developing Jewish beliefs and values and demonstrating commitment to Jewish way of life e.g. Friday Shabbat meal, keeping and celebrating Shabbat in the home, the role of the mother in educating and bringing up children in the faith.
- How key Jewish beliefs expressed in the Shema prayer have an impact on daily home life (the Mezuzah).

KEY STAGE 2

BELIEF

- Jewish beliefs about God: God is one, God as creator, Lawgiver, Judge, God as the provider in this life and in the afterlife.
- Beliefs about God expressed through the Shema, the first four of the Ten Commandments, Psalms, songs and prayers, stories from the Torah.
- Beliefs about creation and the natural world; responsibility to be thankful for and care for the created world.

AUTHORITY

- The significance of Moses in Judaism: chosen by God (Burning Bush), leading Israelites out of Egypt, the giving of the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai, the beginnings of Judaism.
- The importance of the Torah: its place, use and significance in the synagogue, importance for Jewish people today.
- Sefer Torah and the work of the scribe.
- The Ten Commandments, 613 commandments.
- The role of the Rabbi as teacher

EXPRESSIONS OF BELIEF

- The synagogue as a place of worship and prayer, education, community. The main features of the synagogue and their significance. Synagogue worship at Shabbat and

key festivals.

- The importance of the home for demonstrating Jewish beliefs and practices e.g. daily prayer, Shabbat, key festivals and celebrations, kosher kitchen.
- Beliefs and practices associated with daily prayer, including significance of Kippah, Tallit, Tzitzit.
- How beliefs are expressed through practices of Pesach, Sukkot, Shavuot.
- How commitment, belonging, religious identity are expressed through ceremonies e.g. Brit Milah (circumcision), girls' naming, Bar and Bat Mitzvah.
- How some expressions of belief may vary between Orthodox and Reform traditions e.g. Shabbat practices, synagogue worship, food laws.

IMPACT OF BELIEF

- How Jewish people today follow Jewish laws (including the Ten Commandments) and scripture and the impact this has on individual and community life.
- How Jewish people show commitment and belonging to the faith community e.g. contributing to work of the synagogue, helping others (e.g. Jewish charities, caring for those in the community), Mitzvah Day, tzedaka, gemilut hassadim, pushkes.
- Introduction to how Jewish values will affect views and actions on moral issues e.g.:
 - o environment e.g. Tu B'Shevat: tree planting
 - o care for others.