

Learning in EYFS: RE

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to learning within key stage one and two as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. The aim of this document is to understand how the skills taught across EYFS feed into later learning.

Religious education is not a statutory part of the national curriculum but state funded, local authority schools must provide a basic curriculum. Schools designated as having a religious character are free to make their own decisions in preparing their syllabuses. Each local authority will have an agreed syllabus so it is important RE subject leaders are aware of the agreed syllabus and how statements from the 2020 Development Matters feed into that particular syllabus.

The table below outlines the most relevant statements taken from the Early Learning Goals in the EYFS statutory framework and the Development Matters age ranges for Birth to Three, Three and Four-Year-Olds and Reception.

The most relevant statements for RE are taken from the following areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Understanding the World

RE			
2 Year Old Early Learners	Personal, Social and Emotional Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish their sense of self. • Notice and ask questions about differences, such as skin colour, types of hair, gender, special needs and disabilities, religion and so on.
	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make connections between the features of their family and other families. • Notice differences between people.
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Personal, Social and Emotional Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community.
	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.
Reception	Personal, Social and Emotional Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See themselves as a valuable individual. • Think about the perspectives of others.
	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about members of their immediate family and community. • Name and describe people who are familiar to them. • Understand that some places are special to members of their community. • Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
ELG	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Building Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show sensitivity to their own and others' needs.

	Understanding the World	Past and Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. • Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.
		People and Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.