

Religion and Worldviews - Learning Outside the Classroom at Mount Zion

We offer a range of learning outside the classroom (LOtC) taught sessions and activities at Mount Zion. These address several areas of the National Curriculum and SMSC. However, a visit may form a particularly useful part of a school's religious education and worldviews curriculum (RWV), providing an authentic experience of a continuing religious presence in the community. RWV at Mount Zion addresses the content of the 2024 West Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus of Religious Education 'Believing and Belonging in West Yorkshire' (BBIWY). It covers the six pathways identified in the syllabus:

1. The nature of religion and belief;
2. Expressing belief;
3. Living a good life;
4. Personal journeys;
5. Influence and authority;
6. The big picture.

No presumptions are made as to the religious belonging or beliefs of visiting children and/or adults. We value diversity and take an inclusive, interpretive approach, encouraging individuals to share their own ideas and experiences with others.

We encourage pupils to develop positive attitudes to religion and the beliefs and values of others, developing, self-awareness, respect for all, open-mindedness, appreciation and wonder. Our RWV provision is rich and varied and through an interpretive, enquiry-based approach engages children, making links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of a range of faiths and worldviews. For more information, please see page 8 and 9 of BBIWY 2024-2029.

A visit to Mount Zion addresses BBIWY's emphasises on the importance of RWV reflecting the *local context* and children and young people 'encountering the lived experience of people in order to understand diversity within religions and worldviews'. As a result of a visit to Mount Zion children should:

- Know more about Christianity (particularly Methodism) as a living world faith, core beliefs, the importance of the Bible and how these impact on the belief, practice and daily lives of Christians.
- Acquire new knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews appreciating diversity, continuity and change.
- Recognise connections between their growing understanding of religion, their own lives, the wider world and human experience.
- Appreciate the influence of religion on Britain's historical, social, and cultural heritage and its impact on the lives of individuals and groups over time.

Themes

To achieve this Mount Zion offers a number of themed workshops which are differentiated according to Key Stage. We encourage schools to choose from our menu of provision (see pages 3 to 6) but we will endeavour to meet any specific requirements if possible.

Religion and Worldviews-Learning Outside the Classroom at Mount Zion

Key Stage/Year	BBIWY Content	BBIWY Pathways	MZ Theme	Links to other religions and worldviews
EYFS	Talk about the lives of people who are around them in their family and community. Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past. Draw out similarities and differences.	2. Expressing belief 4. Personal Journey 6. The big picture	Special People: In our own lives, Jesus, John Wesley.	Stories about people from the Bible, Qur'an, Ramayana, from Sikh Dharm, the Torah, Tripitaka, and inspirational non- religious stories.
	Understand that some places are special to some members of their community. Draw out similarities and differences.	1. Religion and belief 6. The big picture	A Special Place – Zion (Sion). What makes a special, or perfect place?	Places of worship in different religions/special places in the community.
KS 1 Year 1 and 2	Which books and stories are important to Christians?	1. Religion and Belief 6. The big picture	A Special Book – the Bible From the Horse's Mouth – an alternative view of John Wesley's Journal.	Special books in different religions.
	Why are festivals important in a community?	2. Expressing belief 5. Influence and authority	Special Times Christmas and Easter (as appropriate to the time of the visit).	Times of and reasons for celebrations; Diwali; Eid
	What does it mean to belong to a community of belief?	1. Religion and belief 4. Personal Journey 6. The big picture	A Special Place Identity, Heritage and Belonging.	What does it mean to belong to a mandir, mosque, gurdwara, synagogue, vihara?

	How is new life welcomed?	1. Religion and belief 4. Personal Journey 6. The big picture	A Milestone – celebrating, naming, blessings and Baptism.	Naming ceremonies, blessings, welcoming events across religions and in non - religious contexts.
	How and why do some people pray?	2. Expressing belief 4. Personal Journey 5. Influence and authority	God Talk - prayers, psalms and songs.	Prayer, meditation, music, call and response across religions; spiritual dimension.
Key Stage 2 Year 3 and 4	What faiths and beliefs may be found in our country and community?	1. Religion and belief 6. The Big picture	Everyone Comes from Somewhere; Calderdale (and Mount Zion) from the Bronze Age to the 21 st century.	Diverse people in Calderdale today, evidence in places of worship, dress, customs, beliefs and practice.
	How do different people reflect their spirituality?	2. Expressing belief 4. Personal journey	Signs and Symbols, God Talk; prayers, psalms and songs.	Worship and signs and symbols across religions; non-religious responses to spirituality.
	How do ancient stories influence modern celebrations?	5. Influence and authority	Advent and Christmas Easter.	Stories from revealed writings and different national and cultural traditions.
	Why do people follow inspirational leaders?	3. Good life 5. Influence and authority	Such a Journey – John Wesley at Mount Zion.	Leaders, religious and non-religious trailblazers who have inspired action.
Key Stage 2 Year 5 and 6	What values do people live by?	3. Good life	All Change – Mount Zion, Alexander Kilham and the New Connexion.	Principles, codes of conduct, vows and promises; religious and non-religious.
	What do Christians believe about the old and new covenants?	5. Influence and authority 6 The big picture	Revelation – special books, messages and interpretation.	Revelation across religions; the Bhagavad Gita, Guru Granth Sahib, Quran, Torah.

	Why are rites of passage important?	2. Expressing belief 4. Personal journey	Milestones- baptism, confirmation, marriage and death at Mount Zion; then and now.	Belonging, faith and action.
Key Stage 3 Year 7, 8, 9	How do Christians worship in diverse ways?	2. Expressing belief	Living Together – similarities and differences.	Faith and or spirituality expressed in other religions and non-religious life stances?
	What does it mean to live in multi-faith Britain?	3. Good life	Living Together - ecumenicalism, interfaith relations and non-religious groups.	Calderdale as a window on the world, home to people of all faiths and none.
	Does religion promote or prevent equality?	5. Influence and authority 6. The big picture	Living Together – parity of esteem or elitism? Equal but different? Alexander Kilham, the New Connexion, the Bakerites at Mount Zion.	Movements to help people live together well; historical (abolishment of slavery), universal suffrage and recent, anti- racism and LGBTQ rights.
	How do Christians view the Kingdom of God?	2. Expressing belief 5. Influence and authority	Special Books – a new creation, Jesus and God’s Kingdom.	Ideas about transcendent states across religions; paradise, moksha, enlightenment.
	What is marriage and how is it celebrated?	2. Expressing belief 4. Personal journey	Milestones – Christian and Methodist views on marriage. Marriage at Mount Zion.	Marriage in Christianity; same sex marriage, marriage in different religions, purpose.

Key Stage 4 Year 10 - 11	Bespoke/related to GCSE syllabus used.	Bespoke	Bespoke	Bespoke
<p>Year 10-11, sessions may be geared towards the syllabus (see below), or the topic being studied for GCSE. Mount Zion provides the perfect setting to explore big questions (many of which Methodists have grappled with and attempted to address over the last 250 years). For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do people work for peace around the world? (Pathway 3) • What are human rights and what do religious groups say about them? (Pathway 5) • How can people work together to tackle extremism? (Pathway 5) • How can we make the world a fairer place for all? (Pathway 3) • Is there a connection between religion, citizenship and the state? (Pathway 5) • How do different faiths live, coexist or work together? (Pathway 1 and 6) • How is diversity evident in Christian and Muslim thought? (Pathway 1 and 6). 				

Please note:

Visit content and activities are differentiated according to key stage.

A visit/session duration is usually 1 hour, 45 minutes.

All visits are planned and led by a qualified teacher; all volunteers have an enhanced DBS.



Booking and Contact Details

For more information, to discuss dates and to receive a booking form, please contact:

 heritage@calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk

 07958 759805

Please visit our website <https://mountzion.cmch.org.uk/>

Visit Charges

Mount Zion aims to be accessible to all pupils and students regardless of financial circumstances. However, we rely on discretionary grants and the generosity of our visitors and friends, to allow us to provide high quality learning outside the classroom.

There is *no fixed charge* for a visit, but we suggest where possible a *donation of £3.00* per pupil/student per visit. Any donation no matter how small will be gratefully received. Donations may be brought with you on the day. All cheques should be made payable to Mount Zion Heritage Chapel. You may also pay by BACS transfer.



General Information

Staff and volunteers will take all reasonable care and work within clear health and safety and child protection guidelines, but the *responsibility for the care, safety and discipline of the children remains with the school at all times; the organising teacher remain responsible for the management and discipline of the children throughout the visit.*

Mount Zion will provide a copy of our risk assessment, but school are responsible for carrying out their own risk assessment.

Access to the Chapel and adjoining cottage is via a ramp, but please note there is currently no wheelchair accessible toilet on site.

Parking is limited and currently on the roadside. Please park with consideration for our neighbours.

Address: [Mount Zion Methodist Church, Per Lane, Ogden, HX2 8XG.](#)