Ellison Key concepts in Religious Education

At Ellison Primary Academy the children learn through a concept-based curriculum allowing them to learn beyond solely the topic facts. Concepts or 'big ideas' allow children to make connections between their learning and in turn gain a deeper understanding allowing them to make sense of the facts and the world around them. As part of our conceptual curriculum we involve the use of specific key questions which focus upon factual, conceptual and debatable content. Concepts are returned to throughout the Year Groups to ensure children have a clear understanding of them and enabling them to be held within their long-term memory.

Please find below a list of concepts that the children at Ellison Primary Academy focus upon in Religious Education and our reasoning behind the choice to focus on these concepts.

Concept	Why learn about this concept?	Year group studied (though may be referred to within other year groups).
Community	From a young age children are impacted daily by their community. A community is an all-inclusive group of people who live, work and play near each other. By learning about the communities in which children belong and contrasting these with other communities, children are able to better understand their place in the wider world and develop an understanding of and respect for people from a range of communities. This concept will also allow children to explore how their choices may impact on the wider community.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
Morality	As children and young people develop a sense of identity they will internalise definitions of right and wrong and use these in a range of situations both personal and philosophical. The exploration of this concept will enable children to understand how moral values and a sense of obligation can come from some people's beliefs and experiences. They will also be able to evaluate their own and others' values in order to make informed, rational and imaginative choices. When children are able to explore the issue of morality it is hoped that they are able to independently make sensible choices when faced with moral decisions.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
Faith	At Ellison, we feel that this is an important concept to explore. Britain is a multicultural and a multi-faith society. Even though many children grow up without a faith, they will potentially grow up in an area where there are people of many faiths. It is important that children explore this concept in order to develop an understanding of people that follow a faith or indeed have no faith. This is vital for us to develop a community where people demonstrate tolerance towards others.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 6

Tradition	Tradition plays a part in everybody's life. All families and communities have their own traditions. These traditions also play a part in the wider local and national community. It is imperative that children understand these traditions and the traditions of others in order to fully understand their place in society and the reasons for many of the celebrations that we share as a nation, as a smaller local community or as families.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
Worship	When exploring the concept of worship children are not being taught to worship, they are being taught about worship. This will enable them to make links between worship and faith. In turn children will develop a deeper understanding of the reasons that some people possess the beliefs that they do and why some people conduct themselves in the way that they do. This will contribute towards an understanding and respect of other members of our multi-faith society.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
Symbols	Children and adults will be exposed to many different symbols throughout their life. In religious education this concept will explore the use of symbols within faith communities. Children will therefore develop a deeper background knowledge of common symbols that they may see in their everyday lives, for example when attending weddings or baptisms. This along with the other concepts will again contribute to helping children to develop deeper understanding and tolerance of many different communities.	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 5
Values	This concept links very closely to the concept of morality. At Ellison we want to assist children to have good values, morals, and ethics. Our personal values are influenced by a number of things and are developed as we grow. By exploring the values of others, including British Values children will be able to think deeply about their own values and develop as an individual.	Year 1 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
Spirituality	Spirituality is viewed as beliefs, practices, and experiences that shape and create a way of knowing and living that may be informed by religious ritual, tradition or may not have any religious basis. When exploring spiritualty, children will explore their own thoughts and ideas and look at their own identity. They will use the idea of spiritualty to express their own opinions and ideas on some of the deeper questions that they may have about the world around them.	Year 1 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6