Key Question: L2.10 What does it mean to be a Buddhist in Britain today?

The **principal aim of RE** is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

Strand / Questions /	Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils	Suggested content for learning:
Religions	to achieve end of key stage outcomes):	Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own
Strand: Living	Teachers will enable pupils to be able to achieve	Re-visit the story of the life of the Buddha with a particular focus on the
	some of these outcomes, as appropriate to their	Four Sights.
Recommended Year 4	age and stage:	 Explore what suffering there is in the world and why people suffer. Find
or 5	Emerging:	out about and consider the relevance of The Four Noble Truths
	 Recognise that Buddhists try to follow the 	 Life involves suffering
Questions in this	Teachings of the Buddha which include the	The cause of suffering is craving
thread:	Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold	The End of Suffering: Enlightenment (Nirvana/Nibbana)
KS1 What can we learn	Path.	4. The Way to the End of Suffering: the Noble Eightfold Path (which is
from the life of the	 Describe some examples of how a Buddhist 	divided into three main sections, Morality/Meditation/Wisdom)
Buddha?	lives their life.	 Discuss whether meditating and being free of craving reduces suffering.
3.5 Why is there	Expected:	 Learn about the items on a Buddhist shrine and what they signify: the
suffering?	Name and reflect on the 3 main divisions of	Buddha image (Buddha Rupa); candles, incense, flowers. Explore why the
3.8 What is good and	the Noble Eightfold Path.	Buddha Rupa is important to Buddhists.
what is challenging	 Suggest at least 2 reasons why being a 	• Learn about the life of a monk. Look at some of the rules they keep, such
about being a teenage	Buddhist is a good thing in Britain today	as: not using money, not eating after midday, shaving the head and
Buddhist, Sikh or	and 2 reasons why it might be hard.	wearing the robe, not watching television or listening to music, not getting
Muslim in Britain	Recognise the difference between monks	married or having children, living only on food that is given to them.
today?	and lay Buddhists.	Consider what you would find both rewarding and difficult about being a
3.9 Should happiness	 Explain what the key elements of a 	monk or nun in Britain.
be the purpose of life?	Buddhist shrine mean.	• Learn about the life of a lay Buddhist. If you were a Buddhist how would it
3.10 Does religion help	Consider why the Buddha Rupa is	improve your everyday life and what problems would you encounter?
people be good?	important to Buddhists.	Consider the following: the key practices of giving, kindness, harmlessness
Deliniana and	Exceeding:	(expressed in the Five Precepts) and meditation.
Religions and	 Suggest how the world would be a better 	 Learn about how monks and Buddhist lay people live in mutual
worldviews: Buddhism	place if more people kept the Five Precepts.	dependence. (Lay people providing monks with material support and
	Comment thoughtfully on the	monks providing lay people with spiritual support).
	interdependent relationship between a lay	If possible invite a Buddhist monk or Buddhist lay person into school to
	Buddhist and a Buddhist monk or nun.	talk to the children, or arrange a visit to a monastery.
	 Suggest their own ideas as to why 	http://foresthermitage.org.uk/about/contact

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meditation is an important part of a Buddhist's life.	 Learn about how and why British Buddhists celebrate the festival of Wesak (the anniversary of the Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment and Final Passing). For Wesak many Buddhists will go to a temple/monastery and while there will do the following: reaffirm their commitment to the Five Precepts offer food and requisites to monks and nuns practice meditation listen to teaching about the Buddha's life and teachings a circumambulation around a Buddha image or shrine (process three times in a circle while holding candles, flowers and incense, and chanting) Discuss how the story of the life of the Buddha is relevant to the life of a Buddhist in Britain today.
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