

Knowledge and Understanding of Non-Religious World Views

The outline of content here is adapted from suggestions in Understanding Humanism produced by Humanists UK. This is also available from www.understandinghumanism.org.uk and in the West Yorkshire RE Resources Hub.

Key Stage 1

Schools are required to include study of non-religious worldviews throughout all key stages. At KS1 this may be covered by including a non-religious dimension in a specific area of study, such as celebrating new life.

<p>General skill development</p> <p>In Y1 pupils should be able to: Recall, talk about and notice, respond to questions and talk about ideas.</p> <p>In Y2 pupils should be able to: Recall and name, retell and suggest meanings for and recognise similarities and differences.</p>	
<p>Beliefs and Meaning</p> <p>Including: Knowledge and belief; Meaning and purpose</p>	<p>Values and Society</p> <p>Including: Celebration and ceremonies; Non-religious ethics.</p>
<p>By the end of KS1 pupils could be able to:</p> <p>Knowledge and Belief</p> <p>Talk about how beliefs may not be religious and what is meant by ‘humanist’. Name the Happy Human as a symbol of Humanism.</p> <p>Talk about how happiness includes relationships, exploration, and achieving our goals.</p> <p>Meaning and Purpose</p> <p>Talk about why human beings are special; what we share with other animals and what makes us unique. Notice our ability to question, to reason, to empathise and to be creative.</p> <p>Recognise how human beings can improve our quality of life and our understanding of the world, including human achievements in science, medicine, art, and society.</p>	<p>By the end of KS1 pupils could be able to:</p> <p>Celebration and Ceremonies</p> <p>Notice how people, including humanists, may celebrate special events, such as the birth of a baby, with ceremonies that are not religious.</p> <p>Non-religious Ethics</p> <p>Recognise the importance of human relationships and the need to give and receive for love and support from other people</p> <p>Suggest reasons for being good to one another; for promoting happiness and avoiding doing harm; for considering the consequences of our actions.</p> <p>Talk about the Golden Rule and the importance of empathy; taking care of other living creatures and the natural world.</p>
<p>Key Vocabulary</p> <p>Empathy, Golden Rule, Happy Human, Science, Happiness, Relationships, Humanist, Humanism</p>	

Key Stage 2

Schools are required to include study of non-religious worldviews throughout all key stages. This may be covered by including a non-religious dimension in a specific area of study, such as celebrations or tackling an ethical question. At KS2 and KS3 the curriculum should also include discrete coverage of Humanism or another non-religious approach to understanding life and belief.

<p>General skill development</p> <p>In Y4 pupils should be able to: describe and make links; explain and give reasons; describe and show understanding; explore and describe similarities and differences; reflect and give examples. In Y6 pupils should also be able to: compare and contrast views; give a considered response; explain a range of opinions and give reasons; weigh up different points of view; summarise and apply a range of ideas.</p>	
<p>Beliefs and Meaning</p>	<p>Values and Society</p>
<p>Including: Knowledge and belief; Atheism and agnosticism; Meaning and purpose.</p>	<p>Including: Celebration and ceremonies; Humanist values; Non-religious ethics;</p>
<p>By the end of KS2 pupils should be able to:</p> <p>Describe and explain how Humanists believe that the material world is the only one that exists and that there is no supernatural cause for its existence</p> <p>Explain how Humanists believe that human beings have evolved, as other animals, contrasting this with a belief in divine creation.</p> <p>Show understanding of how humanists believe that human reason and evidence rather than sacred texts and revelation are the key sources of knowledge.</p> <p>Describe what is meant by atheism and agnosticism and how humanists believe that humanism is a positive philosophy enabling people to live good and happy lives without the need for a god or gods.</p> <p>Weigh up the humanist principle of respecting different ways of finding happiness if they cause no harm to others.</p> <p>Explore the absence of belief in an afterlife and the implication that the time to seek happiness</p>	<p>By the end of KS2 pupils should be able to:</p> <p>Compare and contrast how non-religious people mark key moments in people's lives such as namings, weddings and funerals.</p> <p>Explain and show understanding of Humanist beliefs in shared human moral values: kindness, compassion, fairness, justice, honesty.</p> <p>Weigh up the belief that human beings alone can make the world a better place for everyone</p> <p>Summarise some principles of non-religious ethics including: individual responsibility, the use of reason, empathy, compassion, and respect for the dignity of all. Give reasons for why the absence of religious texts may affect decisions.</p> <p>Explore how the Golden Rule is a shared ethical principle, present in a wide variety of cultures throughout history and is a result of human evolution as a social animal</p>

and meaning is in this life.

Consider how **human beings are responsible** for their own personal and communal destiny.

Key Vocabulary

Humanist, Humanism, Atheist, Agnostic, Afterlife, Secular, Compassion, Respect, Dignity, Ethics, Evolution, Human Rights