

Subject Identification Criteria for More Able Pupils (MAPs)

Religious Studies

More able learners in TPR may display a selection of the following characteristics:

- Can make comparisons between religious beliefs and practices
- Able to evaluate moral questions, giving reasons for and against
- Can reach justified conclusions with reasons on religious issues
- Understand religious ideas and theories, applying them to real life situations
- Perform at levels of literacy that are advanced for their age
- Ability to communicate effectively in different forms
- Use subject specific vocabulary with accuracy and confidence
- Has a good understanding of cause and effect
- Broad range of religious knowledge
- Can discuss the significance of events, people and changes
- Can name some of history's key thinkers and summarise their worldview
- Maturity in their ability to analyse religious concepts
- Able to demonstrate and use a wide and growing knowledge base
- Able to question, challenge, develop own lines of enquiry
- Good grasp and understanding of religious interpretation
- Can make imaginative links between the topics studied with other subjects
- Ability to hypothesise and can make judgements and justify them
- Can take on new and broad concepts
- Offers unexpected and interesting insights to discussion
- Willingness to search for new information and ideas
- Has an enquiring mind
- Can cope with tentative conclusions
- Developed sense of empathy and imagination

Activities that MAPs should do:

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- Regularly read news and current affairs articles and practice forming judgements and articulating points of view
- Visit religious sites and places of worship, considering what they have in common and how they are different
- Keep a journal of observations about different cultures and practices when travelling
- Look for ways that religion and ways of thinking affect people's behaviour.
- Engage in high level conversation with people, practising how to put ideas and arguments across convincingly
- Look for beauty and inspiration in the world and notice how this impacts upon people's lives.
- Create space occasionally just to sit and think.

How can parents support MAPs:

- Encourage them to read/read together
- Engage in debates/discussions - linked to current affairs
- Model curiosity
- Press MAPs for justification for their arguments and points of view
- Encourage pupils to conduct research around topics of interest
- Provide pupils with sufficient time to complete work thoroughly
- Encourage full answers to challenging questions