



Discovery RE Knowledge Organiser Key Stage 2



This knowledge organiser is a guide, offering key information to point the teacher in the right direction as to the beliefs underpinning the particular enquiry. The summaries must not be taken as the beliefs of ALL members of the particular religion.

Religion /Worldview: Humanism	Enquiry Question: How could Humanists lead good lives?	Year Group: Key Stage 2
In this enquiry, the children look at an introduction to Humanism. They learn about some key beliefs and consider how these impact on daily life		

Core Knowledge (see also background information documents)	Link to other aspects of belief	Personal connection / resonance
<p>Humanists have a Golden Rule: Treat others as you would like them to treat you. Each Humanist has individual beliefs but there are some beliefs that many of them share – these include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanism is not a religion – it is an approach to life • There is no evidence to believe in a God or a life after death • Science gives many answers about life and will provide more in future. • Human life is precious, and we should make the best of it • We should be good to each other as this is the only life we have • We are responsible for our actions • We should develop and act using empathy (thinking about others) <p>Humanists celebrate human achievements and believe that we all have talents which we should use to benefit others. Humanists now have non-religious ceremonies; many countries legally recognise these (although not in all areas of the UK to date - 2020)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanists rely on science and reason for their beliefs – evolution for example • Humanists believe that asking questions and seeking answers help humans to develop and fulfil their potential • The Golden Rule leads Humanists to think of others before acting • Humanists believe we should look after the earth – although it wasn't made for us, we share it with other living things and need to protect it for future generations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do I believe? • How do I think I should live my life? • How can I be happy? • How can I help others be happy? • Should we live by the Golden Rule? • What do I think about life after death (if deemed appropriate)?
Key Terms and definitions	History/Context	Impact on believer/daily life
<p>Humanist – someone who makes ethical decisions based on reason, empathy, and a concern for other living things</p> <p>Atheist – Someone who does not believe in a god or gods</p> <p>Agnostic – someone who neither believes nor disbelieves in a god. They are not sure due to a lack of convincing evidence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanism has always been around but did not really have a name until relatively recently • Most societies included people who questioned whether there was a God • Denying the existence of God was a very risky thing to do in the past and could lead to persecution (it still can in some countries where a specific religion governs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Humanists believe there is no God so they do not have to worry about doing things to please a god. • Using our talents, looking after others and making the best of every day are key beliefs which will recur • Referring to the Golden Rule is a key to a Humanist life– ‘Treat others how you would want to be treated’
Home learning ideas/questions: How can we be happy? How can we show empathy for everyone at home and in other areas of our lives?		