

Faith Matters – Frequently Asked Questions

Who produced Faith Matters?

Faith Matters is produced by 2Simple and Birmingham Services For Education. It is a premium product for subscribers to Purple Mash.

What is the ethos behind Faith Matters?

By looking at the beliefs, common themes and shared dispositions / values of the world's major religions Faith Matters has been designed to help children learn about what it means to live in modern multi-cultural Britain. The resources are designed to inform children about the beliefs and practices of these religions and encourages them to recall what they have learnt but also importantly to think about their own personal beliefs and values.

Who is Faith Matters for?

The videos are aimed at children and teachers across the primary age range. The accompanying resources are suitable for children aged 7 and above.

How can I use Faith Matters in my schools?

There are three main ways Faith Matters can be used in schools.

1. Faith Matters can be used to promote Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development in schools. [http://www.purplemash.com/#app/englishframework/Purple Mash and SMSC](http://www.purplemash.com/#app/englishframework/Purple_Mash_and_SMSC).
2. The videos and resources in Faith Matters support the teaching of Religious Education and links to SACRE RE schemes across the country.
3. The videos can be used to provide content for collective worship. They can be displayed full screen and displayed on the whiteboard via a projector

Schools have used Faith Matters to support other curriculum areas. For example the class topic in one school was India and the teacher used Faith Matters to teach the children about the beliefs and practices of the major religions that originated in the area.

What religions are covered in Faith Matters?

Faith Matters has videos and resources based on Baha'ism, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Rastafarianism and Sikhism.

What resources are there in Faith Matters?

There are a mixture of videos, games and written resources in Faith Matters. A detailed breakdown of resources can be found at www.purplemash.com/#app/faith/faith_matters_guide. The videos are produced exclusively for Faith Matters. The accompanying resources encourage the children to write down what they have learnt or to reflect upon the values and beliefs that are important to them

How are the resources organised?

The resources in Faith Matters are categorised in a number of ways. Activities and resources are grouped by religion, by shared themes or by dispositions and values.

How do I know the resources are factually correct?

All of the resources in Faith Matters have been checked by religious leaders from each of the different religions covered.

Does Faith Matters tell children what they should believe?

NO. None of the resources tell children that one belief is more important than another or that a particular belief is correct. Faith Matters encourages children to reflect upon the facts they have learnt about a religion to reflect upon what is important to them. This may or may not be from a faith perspective.

What is the difference between faith and religion?

This is a question that 10 people may answer in 10 different ways. One explanation is that faith is personal and relates to what a person truly believes. A person may have faith but not be religious. For example they may have faith in something but choose not to practice it as part of an established religion or their faith may not fit into that of a religion. Religion is the external expression or observation by a group of people who may all share a similar faith. A person may be religious but not have faith. For example they may follow the external expressions by celebrating the rituals without having a truly personal faith themselves.