

# Do religious symbols mean the same to everyone?

Year 2

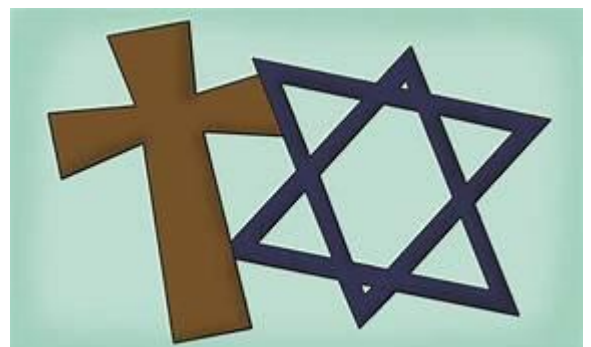
Autumn Term 2

## Key Questions

How do we know that a religious leader have that role?  
What do we wear to show what we believe?  
What is the meaning of tallit, Kippuah, tefillin, star of David, memorah and mezuzah?  
What are the colours of Vicar's dog collar?  
Does wearing symbols help people to believe?  
Do the symbols help people to remember the stories of their faith?  
Who do I believe I am?  
What symbols are important to you?

In this unit the children will learn:

- To recognise a range of symbols and their meanings
- The colours of the church year
- To recognise a vicar and a Jewish person who are dressed traditionally
- The Jewish prayer artefacts



### Key content:

- There are many different religious symbols around and they are used in many different ways.
- The fish symbol was used by Christians in the early church as a secret symbol when Christians were being persecuted.
- The cross has been used by Christians as a reminder of the death of Jesus
- The dog collar worn by many vicars is a symbol of servitude, echoing the collars worn by slaves in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Colours have symbolism in Christianity too; green is for normal time, red for some festivals Pentecost & Holy Week, gold for Christmas day, Easter Day and Trinity Sunday, white for Christmas season, Epiphany and Easter season and purple for advent and lent.

### Key Vocabulary

**Symbols:** a mark used as a conventional representation

**Rabbi:** a Jewish teacher

**Vicar:** priest

**Hanukkiah:** a Jewish festival

**Kippuah:** a small hat or head covering Jewish men wear

**Tefillin:** a set of small black leather boxes containing scrolls of parchment inscribed with verses from the Torah

**Torah:** the law of God as revealed to Mose

### Key content:

- The tefillin are little boxes tied by leather straps to the forehead and the wrist during prayer
- Most Jewish men wear a kippuah, a small head covering or cap. This symbolises the fact that they are under the authority of God.
- The menorah, the 7 branched candlestick, is based on the description given of the tabernacle in the Old Testament.
- The Hanukkiah has 8 branches and a “slave” candle (from which the others are lit) and is only used at Hanukkah. It symbolises the number of days that the oil lasted for when the temple was reinstated after the invasion by Antiochus Epiphanes

