

# LEARNING IN INSPIRING SPACES

## SERMON IN STONE

- Activity** Sermon in Stone  
**Activity type** Cathedral activity  
**Duration** 45-60 minute tour  
30-45 minute interview (if requested)  
OR 90 minute tour
- The students will**
- understand how Christian beliefs and teachings are expressed through practices
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- They will do this by:**
- considering the Cathedral's architectural symbolism
  - learning about the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion
  - learning about the different types of prayers used in worship
  - learning about the building as a place of Pilgrimage
  - interviewing a member of the Cathedral clergy (if requested)
- Curriculum Links** OCR 2016: GCSE (9-1) in Religious Studies  
Beliefs and teachings & Practices (J625/01)
- Before the visit why not.....**
- Prepare some questions – what do we want to find out? You can send them to us ahead of time
  - Let us know if there are specific features of the specification you want us to cover – we can adapt the visit accordingly
- During the visit why not.....**
- Record the interview
  - Take photographs and notes

## Preparing students for a visit to a place of worship

During your visit, there will be people in the building to pray. A member of the Schools and Families team will introduce the students to the Cathedral but it would be helpful if you could prepare them. Below are a few ideas:

- The Cathedral is a place of worship. **What is worship?** What does that mean to you?
- **Who worships at the Cathedral?** It is a Christian place of worship, and services (group worship) take place every day. The main service takes place on a Sunday but the Cathedral is open all year (except Boxing Day) for other services or for people to visit to pray on their own or in small groups or for general visitors
- **Will we experience worship on our visit?** If you are participating in a RE-focussed activity then you will learn about Christian worship. During your visit to the Cathedral there will be no services taking place but there will be people visiting to pray on their own or in small groups
- **What will they be doing?** Lighting candles, talking to the priests about their worries or concerns, reading the bible, sitting quietly
- **How should we show respect to those people?** By moving round the building sensibly, slowly and quietly, removing a hat if wearing one, keeping to main parts of the church and away from areas roped off (these are the most holy (important) areas of the church to Christian people), by having our phones on silent and taking telephone calls outside, being mindful of people sitting on their own or in small groups or lighting candles – they could be saying prayers.
- **“I’m not a Christian though....”** All are welcome in the Cathedral regardless of whether they are Christian or not.

**We hope you enjoy your visit to the Cathedral and look forward to welcoming you**

**Alex, Judi and all the team in the Schools and Families Department**



### Primary and Secondary Programme

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