

Year 5 | Curriculum Overview

Educational Visits

Educational Visit 1	Educational Visit 2	Educational Visit 3
Gurdwara	Selly Oak Manor	Science
<p>As part of their RE learning, pupils will be visiting a Sikh gurdwara to see how Sikh beliefs are lived out in practice.</p> <p>They will explore important features such as the prayer hall, the scriptures, and the langar kitchen, which serves food to everyone as a sign of equality and community.</p> <p>Seeing these traditions in action will make their classroom lessons more meaningful and memorable.</p> <p>The visit will also encourage children to think about values such as service, fairness and commitment, and how these matter in their own lives.</p>	<p>Children will be visiting Selly Manor to explore what life was like in Tudor England.</p> <p>They will take part in activities such as handling Tudor objects, dressing in costume, and playing traditional games, helping them to imagine how people lived over 400 years ago.</p> <p>The trip links closely to their history lessons on Tudor monarchs, power and society, making the past more vivid and memorable.</p> <p>This hands-on experience will give pupils real examples to use when talking about what life was like during the Tudor period.</p>	<p>Year 5 will be visiting Thinktank Birmingham to take part in the exciting Destination Space: One Big Journey workshop.</p> <p>The children will explore what it is like to travel into space, learning about astronauts, rockets and satellites through interactive activities.</p> <p>This experience links directly to their science topic on Earth and space, helping them understand orbits, the Moon and why we have day and night.</p> <p>The workshop will make their learning more memorable and inspire curiosity about science and exploration beyond our planet.</p>

Geography

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Mountains: What is life like in the Alps?	Oceans: Why do oceans matter?	Deserts: Would you like to live in the desert?
Locates the Alps and describes their geography, comparing features with the local area and assessing tourism's effects.	Explores the importance of oceans for climate and ecosystems, human impacts, and ways to improve marine environments.	Identifies desert locations and climates, comparing features and uses with other biomes, and evaluating desert living.

History

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Vikings: Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else?	Tudor England: What was life like in Tudor England?	Ancient civilisation: What is the legacy of the ancient Greek civilisation?
Identifies Viking roles, trade, and impact using sources and sagas.	Explains Tudor monarchy and society using portraits, inventories and propaganda.	Explores Ancient Greek beliefs, democracy, and achievements, evaluating their influence on the modern world.

Science

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6
Materials: Mixtures and Separation	Materials: Properties and Changes	Earth and Space	Living Things: Life Cycles and Reproduction	Forces: Unbalanced Forces	Animals Including Humans: Human Timeline
Combines knowledge of materials, their properties, and separation methods such as sieving, filtering and evaporation.	Explores material properties such as hardness, transparency and conductivity, while distinguishing between reversible and irreversible changes.	Describes planetary motion, phases of the Moon, day/night and seasonal change using scientific models.	Compares life cycles of plants and animals, including mammals, amphibians, insects and birds, and explores reproduction.	Explores gravity, air and water resistance, friction and mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears.	Describes stages of human development and explains physical changes over the human lifespan.

Art & Design

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Drawing: Depth, emotion and movement	Painting and mixed media: Portraits	Sculpture and 3D: Interactive installation
Uses expressive lines and tonal shading to show emotion and movement, developing compositions inspired by artist techniques.	Explores portraiture through mixed media, using composition and techniques to express identity and ideas.	Plans and constructs installations using symbolism and design thinking, considering space, scale and audience interaction.

Design & Technology

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Structures: Bridges	Electrical systems: Doodlers	Cooking and nutrition: Developing a recipe
Explores bridge structures, building and evaluating truss bridges from different materials for strength and aesthetics.	Designs and constructs Doodler toys with motors, applying research to create functioning and appealing products.	Develops and adapts recipes for improved nutrition, creating packaging and branding for the final product.

Computing

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5
Computing systems and networks: Search engines	Data handling: Mars Rover 1	Creating media: Stop-motion animation	Programming 1: Music	Online safety
Explores how search engines work, how to search effectively using keywords, how to check information accuracy, and the concepts of copyright and fair use.	Investigates how the Mars Rover collects, transmits, and processes data, introduces binary and ASCII, and applies these to space-related challenges.	Teaches planning, capturing, and editing stop-motion animation, incorporating techniques to create smooth, engaging visual narratives.	Introduces coding to create music, using programming concepts to compose, sequence, and edit digital sounds.	Covers strong passwords, online communication, online reputation, tackling online bullying, and understanding how technology impacts well-being.

Religious Education

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6
Sikhism: How far would a Sikh go for their religion?	Christianity: Is the Christmas story true?	Sikhism: Are Sikh stories important today?	Christianity: How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die?	Sikhism: What is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God?	Christianity: What is the best way for a Christian to show commitment to God?
Explores the visible and invisible signs of Sikh commitment, such as the 5 Ks and sewa, using the bridge of <i>loyalty</i> to evaluate what it means to live faithfully in modern society.	Investigates the nativity narratives in Christian texts, using the bridge of <i>truth</i> to examine historical sources, belief and interpretation.	Considers how Sikh stories teach values and shape identity, using the bridge of <i>inspiration</i> to reflect on how traditions are passed on and lived out today.	Explores Christian beliefs about Jesus' death as part of God's plan, using the bridge of <i>purpose</i> to understand sacrifice, salvation and divine intention.	Investigates ways Sikhs demonstrate devotion through prayer, discipline and community service, using the bridge of <i>commitment</i> to explore the relationship between belief and action.	Examines how Christians show their faith through prayer, worship and service, using the bridge of <i>devotion</i> to understand the personal and public dimensions of religious commitment.

Physical Education

Unit 1	Unit 3	Unit 5	Unit 7	Unit 9	Unit 11
Football	Tag Rugby	Netball	Basketball	Athletics	Tennis
Develops advanced ball control, dribbling, and passing under pressure, incorporating tactical decision-making to maintain possession and create scoring opportunities.	Combines defensive positioning, accurate passing, and tactical formations like the 'magic diamond' to enhance team performance in competitive tag rugby.	Introduces advanced dodging and pivoting techniques, refining passing and shooting accuracy to outwit defenders and create scoring chances.	Improves agility, coordination, and tactical awareness in basketball, using advanced passing, blocking, and rebound strategies to maintain possession.	Enhances running, jumping, and throwing skills with a focus on pacing, baton exchange, and applying the STEP principle to design athletic activities.	Introduces volley and overhead shots in tennis, refining movement and tactical positioning to defend and score effectively in both singles and doubles play.
Unit 2	Unit 4	Unit 6	Unit 8	Unit 10	Unit 12
Gymnastics Unit 1	Gymnastics Unit 2	Dance Unit 1	Dance Unit 2	Rounders	Cricket
Focuses on creating complex sequences with symmetry and counterbalances, developing trust and collaboration in partner work.	Refines advanced gymnastic skills including double cartwheels and bridges, enhancing control and precision in sequences.	Explores line dancing and cultural dance styles, developing rhythm, expression, and creative group patterns.	Uses themes like heroes to inspire choreography, applying devices such as retrograde and fragmentation to create dynamic performances.	Develops striking and fielding tactics in rounders, focusing on hitting into gaps, defensive positioning, and collaboration to limit opponents' scoring.	Consolidates cricket skills such as batting, bowling, and wicketkeeping, applying tactical fielding to restrict runs and maximise team performance.

Personal, Social & Health Education

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 11
Behaviour: Leading with Integrity and Respect	Online Safety: Communicating Safely and Responsibly Online	Anti-Bullying: Promoting Respect and Safety for All	Conflict Resolution: Preventing, Negotiating, Mediating	Safeguarding: Recognising and Responding to Risks	Transition: Stepping into Year 6 with Confidence
Learners deepen their understanding of rules and routines, take ownership of their behaviour, lead with respect, and model positive expectations for others.	Pupils explore safe online friendships, identify harmful contact, evaluate communication, manage permissions, respond to bullying, and protect their online reputation.	Children learn to recognise different forms of bullying, apply advanced self-help strategies, and contribute to a culture of respect, inclusion, and safety.	This unit builds skills in recognising conflict triggers, negotiating respectfully, and mediating to support others in resolving disagreements.	Learners develop awareness of grooming, exploitation, consent, harmful sexual behaviour, and radicalisation, and know how to respond safely.	Learners prepare for Year 6 by exploring new environments, meeting teachers, planning for leadership roles, and modelling resilience for younger peers.
Unit 6	Unit 7	Unit 8	Unit 9	Unit 10	
Families and Relationships: Valuing Ourselves and Others	Health and Wellbeing: Strengthening Mind, Body, and Goals	Safety and the Changing Body: Navigating Changes and Making Safe Decisions	Citizenship: Rights, Responsibilities, and Caring for Our World	Economic Wellbeing: Managing Money Wisely and Planning for the Future	
Children explore building and maintaining positive relationships, managing friendship challenges, understanding marriage, practising self-respect, and addressing family difficulties.	In this unit, pupils focus on emotional wellbeing, resilience, lifestyle choices, risk management, goal setting, and mindfulness techniques.	Learners understand the physical and emotional changes in puberty, learn about menstruation, practise first aid, and make safe choices around substances.	Children investigate rights and responsibilities, value diversity, understand democracy, take environmental responsibility, and explore the role of charities and volunteering.	Pupils learn to prioritise needs, budget, understand borrowing and online money risks, challenge stereotypes, and link personal skills to career choices.	

Music

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Composition Notation (Ancient Egypt)	Blues	Looping and Remixing
Work begins with Ancient Egyptian influences, where pupils compose using both hieroglyphic and stave notation, performing with accuracy and expression.	The blues then provides a new challenge, as learners play 12-bar structures, sing with vocal expression and improvise fluently using the blues scale.	Looping and remixing concludes the year, with pupils layering rhythmic and melodic fragments to construct structured remixes and perform them confidently.

French

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
Shopping in France	Space exploration	Meet my French family
Recaps core vocabulary and structures from Year 3&4, and builds independence in market dialogues using numbers, food terms and transactional phrases.	Uses a science-linked context to build descriptive language, comparing planets and forming extended sentences with adjectives and intensifiers.	Secures descriptive writing through family structures and adjective agreement

Additional Learning

Unit 1	Unit 3	Unit 5	Unit 7
St George's Day	Eid Learning	Local History	Refugee
Children learn about the cultural traditions and customs that surround St George's Day and recognise the flag of St George as a powerful national symbol. They reflect on how shared symbols and celebrations build pride and identity in a community.	Pupils discover the importance of Laylat al-Qadr, the Night of Power, during Ramadan, and the joy of celebrating Eid. They reflect on how faith can inspire spiritual growth and on the values of gratitude and generosity.	A visit to Five Ways Roundabout shows pupils how urban planning shapes the way cities function. They learn why transport systems are vital to community life and begin to consider the impact of design on people's daily experiences.	Through stories and testimonies, pupils put themselves in the shoes of refugees, imagining the challenges of leaving home. They reflect on human rights, empathy and diversity, learning how compassion builds a more inclusive world.
Unit 2	Unit 4	Unit 6	Unit 8
Sustainability	Science Day	Shakespeare	Together, We Belong
By exploring how electricity is generated and used, pupils investigate both renewable and non-renewable energy sources. They begin to see the impact of energy choices on the planet and understand their role in promoting sustainable living.	Through a lively science experiment, children test their own predictions and analyse what happens. They develop curiosity, resilience and teamwork while experiencing the excitement of finding out something new.	Exploring the play <i>King Lear</i> , children hear the story of a king who faces betrayal and loss after dividing his kingdom. They reflect on themes of loyalty, honesty and responsibility, linking these lessons to their own choices and relationships.	Pupils learn about equality and representation by studying LGBTQ+ rights and historical figures who brought change. They design symbols of justice and respect, recognising that standing up for fairness helps everyone to flourish.