

Year 9 Religious Education Vocabulary List

(Tier 2 and Tier 3)



Analyse – examine (something) methodically and in detail, typically in order to explain and interpret it.

Ascension – the event, 40 days after the resurrection, when Jesus returned to God the Father in heaven

Compare – estimate, measure, or note the similarity or dissimilarity between.

Consubstantial – literally ‘of one being’ showing that the Father, Son and Spirit are not separate entities but one God

Creed – a statement of faith

Crucifixion – an ancient form of execution in which a person was nailed or bound to a cross, the method of Jesus’ death

Denominations – distinct groups within the Christian faith, with their own organisation and tradition

Describe – to give a detailed account

Discrimination – the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, age, sex, or disability.

Evaluate – form an idea of the amount, number, or value of; assess.

Evangelism – preaching the good news about Jesus to other people

Explain – to make something clear or easy to understand by describing or giving information/examples about it.

Human Rights – the basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled

Imago Dei – ‘the image of God’ the Latin term used to show that God made human in his image and likeness

Incarnation – God taking on the human condition in Jesus

Injustice – lack of fairness or justice.

Magisterium – the teaching authority of the Catholic Church, exercised by the Pope and the bishops

Option for the poor – priority being given to the well-being of the poor

Prejudice – unfairly judging someone before the facts are known; holding biased opinions about an individual or group

Religious Freedom – the right to believe or practice whatever religion one chooses

Reconciliation – the restoring of harmony after relationships have been broken down, a sacrament in the Catholic Church

Resurrection – Jesus’ rising from the dead after dying on the cross

Rite – a formal or ceremonial religious act e.g. funeral rites

Sacraments – rites and rituals through which the believer receives a special gift of grace e.g. reconciliation

Salvation – freedom from sin, and from the eternal separation from God that is brought about by sin

Sanctity of Life – all life is holy as it is created and loved by God

Social Justice – justice in terms of the distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society

Stewardship – the duty to look after the environment on behalf of God

Transcendent – the idea that God is beyond and outside life on earth and the universe; a quality of God

Trinity/Triune God – the belief that there are three ‘persons’ in the one God

