



# Waterbeach Community Primary School

## Curriculum Capture for Year 4 RE: Why do people go on pilgrimages?

### Key Concepts:

- A pilgrimage is more than just a physical journey. It is a journey of the heart and a spiritual experience
- Christianity is not the only faith in which pilgrimage plays an important part.
- People make journeys for many different purposes, and if visiting a holy place of a faith it is your intention which makes it a pilgrimage or a tourist visit.

### What special places do people visit to be near God?

- Children are to be able to tell a story to a special place
- Children are able to think why people make these journeys
- Children are able to understand why Christians make journeys to special places (churches)
- Children are able to understand why some places are more special than others

### Why might Christians choose to go on pilgrimage?

- Children will understand that special things can happen on a pilgrimage
- Children will understand key features of a pilgrimage
- Children can say why people may go on a pilgrimage
- Children will be able to understand the difference between an ordinary walk and a pilgrimage

### Can we plan our own pilgrimage?

- Children can identify what is necessary for a pilgrimage
- Children can plan and create different items for a pilgrimage

### How is being a pilgrim, different from being a tourist?

- Children can show an understanding between the difference being a tourist and being a pilgrim
- Children can understand why people go on a pilgrimage

### Points to note:

For some people the place where one worships can be of great importance, whether it's one's own home shrine or a huge basilica. What makes pilgrimage destinations special is that they are places which many people over many generations have regarded as important to a religion, usually because of their association with the life of the founder or a faith or a key spiritual leader. Often they are places where special events or miracles have been known to have happened and the faithful pilgrim, in some way, want to be a part of that.

The journey itself is a great act of religious devotion – it is both a physical and a spiritual journey and the pilgrim will feel their spiritual life has been enhanced by both the hardship they have gone through and the blessing of seeing the holy place with their own eyes. They have visited a place where, in a spiritual sense, heaven feels closer to earth; it has been both a real and a symbolic journey.

The tradition of pilgrimage is especially strong in faiths such as Islam with the Hajj to Mecca, and it is sometimes forgotten that Christianity has an equally ancient tradition of pilgrimage; in fact there are written records of pilgrimages to Jerusalem from Western Europe as early as the fourth century.

### Ely Cathedral



### Saint Etheldreda – an East Anglian princess. An Anglo-Saxon Saint

