Autumn 2: EYFS					
RE Unit	**Ways of Knowing (icons)**	**Builds on**	**Curriculum Rationale**	**Leads on**	**National Statement of Entitlement:**
F2. UC: Why is Christmas special to Christians?	Stories Observations Interview		Pupils will explore a variety of aspects of Christmas and what it means to Christians in this unit. This includes finding out about the importance of Jesus in the nativity story, values focused on by Christians at this time of year and practices too. To learn and cement knowledge of the nativity story, we will encounter it several times and be introduced to a variety of versions, not forgetting learning that the original is found in the Bible. We will also get to hear from Christians about why the story is important to them and ways they celebrate Christmas. Observing artefacts and images will also help us find out about how Christian people celebrate Christmas today. We will think about how there are different ways of knowing in RE – focusing on those we use in this unit and remembering those used in other units we have covered too.	F1. UC: Why is God so important to Christians?	a: nature / formation/expression e: values / commitments f: influence and power g: ways of knowing j: personal worldviews: reflexivity

Lesson Sequence and Key Question	What will pupils learn?	Activities *Activities highlighted could be used as inspiration for continuous provision.*	Vocabulary
Lesson 1 What is the story many Christian people tell about the birth of Jesus?	For Christian people, the story of Jesus being born is important. Most Christians believe Jesus was not an ordinary baby, he was incredibly special. They believe he was sent by God to help humans. The events of the nativity story.	**Stories/Observation** Pupils explore a variety of nativity sets from around the world, explain where each is from (images can be used, but it is good to have objects too). Situate the nativity story as important for Christians, and from the Christian holy book. Use a nativity set to help you tell the story, discuss throughout ways the story shows the importance of Jesus. Use stick/finger puppets to retell the story, adapting it expressively. Hide letters JESUS in sand pit for pupils to find and rearrange into the name. Pupils to use nativity set to talk about who is who.	Christian, Jesus, Nativity
Lesson 2 How is the nativity story important to Christians who live near us?	Deepened knowledge of the nativity story. Ways in which the nativity story is important to individual local Christians.	**Stories / Interviews** Talk with local Christians about why the nativity story is important to them. As well as sharing from a theological point of view (Jesus as sent by God), interviewees should share experiences e.g. who they talk about the story with, memories from childhood such as their nativity plays, having it told to them by a particular person. Ensure pupils encounter at least one other version of the story (can be from storybook/film) and see it in a Bible. Act out story. Order pictures showing it. Make own nativity set and put name labels by different characters. Have pictures of the visitors, remind a friend what each said.	
Lesson 3 When do people celebrate Jesus' birth so important for many Christians?	Lots of people celebrate. Christmas is a time when most Christians celebrate Jesus' birth. The belief that Jesus was special as he was sent by God to help humans, applies to Jesus both as a baby and for the rest of his	**Observation** Have box containing cards, photos, objects from a range of celebrations – pupils use as stimulus for talking about own celebrations. Explain Christmas' link to Jesus' birthday, give pupils opportunity to recall and talk about Christian understanding of why Jesus was a special baby	Celebrate, Christmas, Belief

	life. This belief is a focus at Christmas and central to Christian worldviews all year round.	(lesson 1). Explain Christians believe Jesus remained special in this way for his whole human life; an important Christian belief at Christmas and all year. Match staff adult photos with their baby ones. Sort images of Jesus as baby and adult. Make birthday card for Jesus: draw nativity image on front, write/say simple phrase showing why Jesus is special to Christians – words to go on inside. If appropriate, mention Christian belief in Jesus as fully God and fully human in preparation for work in KS1. Take a walk to see signs Christmas will be celebrated soon.	
Lesson 4 How and why do many Christians give gifts, give help and say thank you at Christmas?	Lots of people give presents for special occasions and show thanks on receipt. Christians often give Christmas presents; reasons for this linked to the nativity (gifts from magi to Jesus, Christian belief Jesus given as gift to world by God). Christians are generally thankful at Christmas for the gift of Jesus. Other ways Christians show generosity and thanks at Christmas.	**Stories / Observation / Interviews** Share experiences and ideas of giving and receiving gifts. Select suitable gifts for a new baby from a range. Draw/create gifts people like to give babies. Locate visitors and gifts in Nativity story. Smell frankincense and myrrh, feel gold. Compare these to gifts pupils selected for babies. Look at why each was given in Christian belief. Discuss reasons linked to nativity story why giving gifts, generosity and thankfulness are important to many Christians at Christmas. Explore other ways Christians show generosity and thanks at Christmas (use local examples if possible). Compare and contrast experiences of Christians giving gifts and showing generosity at Christmas with own experiences.	Presents, Thanks, God, Generosity
Lesson 5 How do Christians near us celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas?	Ways in which many Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, including going to church services, gifts, carols, nativity plays.	**Interviews / Observation** Talk with some Christians from the local community about how they celebrate Christmas. Look together at some examples, ensure attending church services, giving gifts and nativity plays are included. Watch part of a nativity play. Use photo of nativity play cast, add flashcards showing name of each. Draw pictures of our Christian visitors celebrating in the ways they explained. Create decorations for Christmas tree in church/school – each decoration should be of chosen character from	Church Service, Carols, Nativity Play

		nativity story, pupils explain who character is, alongside role and importance in story.	
Lesson 6 Why is Christmas special for many Christians?	Revision of nativity story and practices of Christians, including Christians who live locally, at Christmas. Reminder of why they do this, including belief in Jesus as sent by God. Different ways of knowing can be used to find out information in RE.	Use picture of nativity scene and Christmas gift as prompts for discussion allowing pupils to recap and show knowledge through talk. Use sentence starters e.g. something important to say about the Christmas is story… [name of visitor] told us… Small world play of Christian Christmas celebrations. Think through elements of Christmas practised by Christians from the local area who have helped us out in the unit, as a class, use our knowledge of them and Christmas to design a perfect Christmas celebration for our helpers. List the ways of knowing used in this unit and previous ones.	Ways of Knowing

Learning Outcomes (what pupils know)	**Quiz Questions**
Understanding how worldviews influence people's lives: Pupils will know that: •The nativity story is important for many Christians; it tells the story of Jesus' birth. • Many Christians remember the nativity story at Christmas. • Christians have many practices at Christmas including giving gifts, attending church services and nativity plays. • Being generous and giving thanks are very important to lots of Christians at Christmas, because of the nativity story. • Most Christians believe that Jesus was very special and important, having been sent by God to help humans during his human life and find this to be a very important belief. **Engaging with religious worldviews:** Pupils will: • Engage actively with several versions of the nativity story.	Why is the Nativity Story important to Christians? When is the Nativity Story shared? How does your local Church celebrate the Nativity at Christmas? How can you be generous at Christmas? Why is Jesus important? How do your local Christians celebrate Christmas? What different ways do Christians celebrate Christmas? Are there any special objects that are used to celebrate Christmas?

• Hear from and talk about the lives of Christians from the local area, finding out about and focusing on their experiences of the nativity story and practices at Christmas. • Observe ways in which Christmas is celebrated. • Explore objects related to Christmas and other celebrations. **Understanding themselves:** Pupils will: • Reflect their own experiences of celebrating. • Notice and respond to ideas about sharing, caring and kindness at Christmas, comparing and contrasting their experiences of generosity and thankfulness with those learnt about.	How do you celebrate Christmas with your family? Which Christian values are shown around Christmas?