

# Seasonal Experiences



The different seasons and festivals of the church are fantastic opportunities to engage with your local school. Whilst these events may not involve a frequent interaction with the school community, they are contextually relevant and can assist the school in meeting curriculum objectives.

Seasonal experiences or events are also great opportunities to advertise any outreach activities the church may be delivering specifically related to that season or festival.

There are different Locally Agreed or Diocesan Syllabuses used to inform school's RE planning and each have similar objectives for learning about different festivals. For example, one objective for Key Stage 1 is, *"Recall and name some of the main festivals and seasons including Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Explore some other festivals, such as Harvest festival."* In Key Stage 2, the objectives encourage the children to think more deeply about the meaning behind festivals and how believers celebrate them.

Seasonal experiences can either be delivered in school or in church and will be appropriate for both community and church schools. Below are two examples of seasonal experiences.

## In school

An example from a CE primary school is a Good Friday experience where members of the PCC each manned a station in the school hall. Each station was a different Good Friday activity. Each class had an opportunity to move round the stations and explore the Good Friday story.

## In church

An example from a church linking with 3 community schools is the Christmas story. Classes from each school came to the church and journeyed through an interactive retelling of the Christmas story. This took quite a bit of time to set up but it was able to be left up during the week and only needed two members of the church to run.

## Some suggested resources

[Experience Journeys](#)

[Scripture Union Seasonal Activities](#)

[Festivals and Seasons of the Church Activities](#)