

# CATHEDRAL TRAILS

The following Trails are available for groups of up to 35 pupils. If necessary we can cater for larger groups. Please let us know if you would like us to plan and develop a one-off bespoke Trail for your pupils to focus on a particular curriculum area and we will be happy to oblige.

## **FINDING OUT ABOUT 'SPECIAL THINGS' IN BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL**

**(KS1/Lower KS2)**

*(1 ½ hours)*

*This interactive trail has been developed to support visits to the Cathedral by pupils in KS1 and lower KS2. On a guided journey of discovery children visit eight different stations to find out about the church building, the Bible, the Eucharist, Vestments, Baptism, the 'Sign of Peace', St. Mary and learn about the different types of prayer.*

## **GOOD NEWS AND NEWSBRINGERS: ANGELS TRAIL**

**(KS1)**

*(1 ½ hours)*

*This Trail is available prior to and during Advent. Using the format of a picture trail pupils discover all the 'special things' in Blackburn Cathedral (see above) by searching for the angels in and around the building. In a Circle Time they will consider the role of different kinds of angels and reflect on what the Angel Gabriel may have said to Mary and what they think her response would have been.*

*N.B. This Trail requires prior preparation of the pupils beforehand and materials to support this will be sent to the school in advance.*

## **EXPLORING A CHRISTIAN PLACE OF WORSHIP (KS2 / 3)**

*(1 ½ hours minimum)*

*This interactive trail focuses on the central role of symbolism in Christianity as pupils are helped to 'read' and discover Blackburn Cathedral – a building alive with symbolism! Art, artefacts, statues, ceiling bosses, candles, furniture, textiles, vestments, the shape and size of the building itself, all come under the pupils' scrutiny whilst they are helped to unravel their meanings and what they might say about Christian belief and worship, particularly in this great Cathedral. This trail concludes with pupils learning about the cycle of the Church's Year, liturgical colours and having the opportunity to dress up in the Children's Vestment Collection.*

## **CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM TRAIL: Finding out what's 'special' about Blackburn Cathedral, with particular reference to Islam (KS 1 / 2 / 3)**

*(1 ½ hours)*

*This is based on our Exploring a Christian Place of Worship Trail and links learning about Christianity with what may well be already familiar knowledge about Islam; the focus being on those aspects of worship, prayer and religious life that pupils can see similarities. This interactive trail can be tailored to support visits to the Cathedral by pupils in Key Stages 1, 2 or 3, often groups of mainly or wholly Muslim tradition. It offers the opportunity for pupils to witness first hand the different places of prayer and to see & experience for themselves the defining features of Christianity as it is lived out in this place.*

## **CAN THESE STONES SPEAK? Buildings Trail (KS 2 / 3)**

*(1 – 2 hours depending on the age of the pupils and the exact focus required)*

*This Trail focuses solely on the building itself and supports an environmental/buildings study of the local area. Pupils will consider what the building is made from, how it was constructed and learn some of the correct architectural terms. They will use practical observation to understand the history of its construction and recognise where old meets new, find out what the building is used for, understand how the building itself is a symbol and learn how to 'read' a church. Careful reading of gravestones will provide an insight into life, death and social change in Blackburn over the centuries. Pupils will also consider the difference between what is meant by sacred and secular space.*