

What matters most to Humanists?


Key Vocabulary	
humanism	This is a worldview centred on solving human problems with the help of reason rather than religious belief.
worldview	An individual's ideas about life or the world.
secular	To have no connection with religious or spiritual matters.
atheist	A person who has a lack of belief in the existence of God or gods.
agnostic	A person who believes that humans cannot know of the existence of God.
ethical	To follow good and moral practices.
rationality	To be guided by reason and evidence.
Influential Humanists	
Historically, influential people like Charles Darwin, Marie Curie and Albert Einstein all contributed to humanist ideas.	

Non-religious Worldview		
<p>Humanism is a secular worldview and many humanists would recognise themselves as either atheist or agnostic. They believe that we can live happy, harmonious and fulfilling lives without the presence of religion. Humanists base their moral values on human nature and lived experience. They trust scientific evidence and rationality to help understand how the universe works and reject supernatural explanations.</p>		
Main Beliefs of Humanism		
<p>Non-Existence of Gods</p> <p>Humanists believe that there is no scientific evidence for the existence of God. Therefore, we should all strive to live in harmony and embrace the moral principles of compassion and empathy.</p>	<p>Meaning of Life</p> <p>For a humanist, the meaning of life is to live a good life. This means practicing shared human values, respecting others and making good choices that will benefit everyone.</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>Scientific investigations that gather evidence can help us find the truth. Humanists believe that science provides the basis to discover the truth.</p>
<p>No Purpose to the Universe</p> <p>Humanists believe that there is not a godlike figure to give purpose to the universe. Instead, we find our meaning to make sense of the world around us.</p>	<p>Reason</p> <p>Humanists reject religious and supernatural explanations. They want decision to be made on reason, logic and rationality rather than science.</p>	<p>Ethical Decisions</p> <p>Humanists aspire to live good lives, and this can only happen if they make good choices. They accept that we cannot always make perfect choices and should always strive to think about others before we make a decision.</p>

Key Vocabulary	
Humanists UK	Known as the British Humanists Association (BHA) until 2017, Humanists UK is a charity that represents and promotes humanism.
The Golden Rule	The basic principle that humanists all follow: treating others the same way you would want to be treated yourself.
equality	The state of being equal in terms of status, rights and opportunities.
fairness	Treating people equally.
human rights	The basic rights and dignities that belong to everyone.


Humanism Symbols and Meanings

The Humanist symbol is called the Happy Human. It was designed by David Barrington who won a competition organised by the BHA (now Humanists UK). The symbol has become the international symbol of humanism. Not only has it been praised for its simplicity, it is also gender neutral which represents the inclusive nature of humanism.



The Values of Humanists UK
For non-religious people to live happy, fulfilling and ethical lives.
For humanist and other secular voices to be respected.
For everyone to have freedom of thought, choice and expression.
For humanism to grow as a healthy and sustainable movement where people from all walks of life can get involved.

Humanists place significant value on science but they also believe in the power of cooperation with people with different **worldviews**. **Humanism** is built upon the values of **equality**, **fairness**, **human rights** and celebrating human achievement.



Year 5&6 RE Learning Organiser – Summer 2 Humanism

Lesson	Sequence of learning - Key Questions
1	Can I explain which factors influence my views?
2	Can I recognise the names of key people who have influenced humanism?
3	Can I identify the key ideas of humanist thinkers?
4	Can I summarise the main humanist beliefs?
5	Can I create a symbol to represent a value?