

## Year 7 - Religious Studies

### What will be studied?

#### Topic(s)

**Topic One:** What do people mean by 'God'? Monotheism, Polytheism, Syncretism. The qualities of God: Omnipotence, Omniscience, Benevolence, Transcendence, Immanence.

Descriptions and depictions of God – iconography, avatars, Incarnation, murtis. Revelation and miracles. Fundamentalist/Literal and liberal interpretations of text.

**Topic Two:** Can we prove that God exists? Sacred text as Revelation; inspiration/dictation or moral guide? Historical accuracy in religious narratives/genres of sacred texts. Is science an issue for the miraculous? Creation in Genesis. Cosmological arguments. Design arguments. Paley, St. Thomas Aquinas

**Topic Three:** Can we be good without God? Original Sin – free will vs predestination. Ideas of Karma and Dharma in Sanatan Dharma & Buddhism, following the Eightfold Path and 5 Precepts. Law and community – the mitzvot of Judaism, The 5 pillars of Sunni Islam & the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'ism. Degrees of practice from strict to liberal. Natural Moral Law: legal vs moral? Do non-believers get to Heaven?

#### How do you assess the learning?

Students will have a short in class assessment roughly every half term. Students will be required to respond to one, two, four, five and twelve mark questions on each topic as getting used to GCSE format Feedback will be given to identify gaps in learning and skills

### End of Year Examination

#### How will I be assessed at the end of the year?

Students will be examined in line with the whole school assessment calendar at advertised points in the year

### How can I help my child?

#### Guidance and advice

Where students are from a faith community, developing their knowledge and understanding of their own tradition is a great help.

The biggest skill set you can develop is in quality spoken and written English. Expose your child to as much of this as possible. When appropriate discuss eg news stories with your child to develop skills of debate and presenting ideas.

There is a wealth of material online to support acquisition of factual knowledge. <https://www.reonline.org.uk/> is a great resource for all things Christian. BBC Bitesize is also an invaluable tool at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt>