

Religious Studies



Curriculum Intent

Key Stage 3

Students are introduced to world religions and non-religious world views including beliefs and practices. Throughout KS3, three broad areas of religion, philosophy and ethics are the lenses through which lessons are examined.

They will have opportunities to explore questions of meaning, identity and purpose. Students learn how to respond with developed explanations which draw on firm knowledge of religious and non-religious views but also challenge and extend their own perspectives.

In Year 7 students are introduced to philosophical questions and core religious ideas. In Year 8 students explore issues of faith and how key religious ideas influence and guide people's actions.

Key Stage 4

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of 2 specific religions: Islam and Christianity. They cover religious beliefs, teachings, and sources of wisdom and authority, including a study of key religious texts. Students also develop the ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of the subject.

Key Stage 5

Students will undertake an in-depth study of two core areas: philosophy of religion and ethics; and a study of religion (Christianity). Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the meaning and significance of religious and non-religious beliefs. They will consider the influence of these beliefs and teachings on individuals, communities and societies, the cause and significance of similarities and differences in beliefs and teachings and examine the approach of philosophy to the study of religion and belief. Students will be able to analyse and evaluate issues arising from the topics, the views and arguments of scholars such as Aquinas, Aristotle, Hume and Paley. They will also be able to use specialist language and terminology appropriately.

Curriculum Implementation

Key Stage 3

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who am I? How did the world come into being? How do people think about God? What similarities and differences are there in the beliefs and practices of the world's major religions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is faith? How do different people express their faith? Religion and young people Extremism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious responses to moral issues Ultimate questions The Problem of Evil The Holocaust Religion today

Key Stage 4: GCSE (AQA)

Year 10	Year 11
<p>AQA Religious Studies A: Themes and Christianity</p> <p>Themes religion and life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Origins of life Environment Abortion Euthanasia <p>Themes religion, peace and conflict:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violence and terrorism Nuclear war Just War theory Pacifism <p>Themes religion, crime and punishment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime and punishment Aims of punishment Suffering Forgiveness Death penalty <p>Christian beliefs and teachings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of God The incarnation The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension The afterlife and judgment <p>Christian practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worship Prayer Sacraments Festivals Community 	<p>AQA Religious Studies A: Themes and Islam</p> <p>Themes religion, human rights and social justice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justice and rights Prejudice and discrimination Religious freedom Wealth Poverty Exploitation of the poor <p>Muslim beliefs and teachings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oneness of God Sunni and Shi'a Islam Nature of God Angels Prophethood Ibrahim Muhammad Holy books <p>Muslim Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Five Pillars, the Ten Obligatory Acts Salah Sawm Zakah Hajj Jihad Festivals

Key Stage 5: A Level (AQA)

Year 12	Year 13
<p>AQA Religious Studies - Philosophy of religion and ethics & a study of Christianity</p> <p>Philosophy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arguments for God's existence (design, ontological, cosmological) Evil and suffering Religious experience <p>Ethics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normative theories Natural moral law □ Situation ethics Aristotle's virtue ethics Application of theories <p>Christianity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources of wisdom God Self, death and afterlife Good conduct and moral principles 	<p>AQA Religious Studies - Philosophy of religion and ethics & a study of Christianity</p> <p>Philosophy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious language Miracles Self, death and afterlife <p>Ethics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to meta-ethics Free will and moral responsibility Conscience Bentham and Kant <p>Christianity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender and sexuality Science Secularisation Religious pluralism