

Statement of Intent

Throughout KS3, R.E & Ethics is taught within students' Learning for Life lessons. A wide variety of topics are studied as part of the curriculum with opportunities for pupils to express and justify their own personal beliefs in a safe, supported and structured environment. At KS4 R.E is offered as an option at GCSE with students following the AQA A 1-9 paper. This programme of study focuses on both Christian and Muslim beliefs and ethical themes such as crime, conflict, relationships and environmental issues. The subject lends itself to discussion and debate around controversial topics, and allows students to develop a deeper understanding of the wider context of society. Those students who do not want to take R.E as a GCSE choice will explore ethical themes through PSHE in tutor times, focusing on diversity and discrimination.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Religious Education at Key Stage 3 is run through the Learning for Life Programme. Both year 7 and year 8 will have a half term focused on related topics, with lessons consisting of 1 hour a week. They will be given one homework project for the half term that should take around 2 hours to complete.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The students will complete the AQA Specification A 1-9 Religious Studies qualification, which is broken down into two assessments of 1 hour 45 minutes long. Component 1 is focused on the religious practices and beliefs of both Christianity and Islam (50% of total marks). Component 2 is broken down into four ethical themes; families & relationships, crime & punishment, peace & conflict, religion & life (50% of total marks). During the course the students will attend 3 hours of lessons per week and will be expected to complete 45 minutes of homework per week.

Extended Learning

What we offer to extend the learning of our students

GCSE R.S students are involved in promoting key religious dates across the school through assemblies, festivals and other initiatives. Ethical themes are closely linked to our extra-curricular offerings of both an Equality club and Social Action club. There are also many school activities in line with the theme of community which comes through in the topic, for example our whole school food donation drive and Merton's Windrush Legacy Project.

What parents can do to support extended learning in this subject

To support the subject a parent could check their child's spelling of new religious terms as students will achieve extra marks in their exam for correct SPAG. It would also be useful to discuss religious and ethical questions e.g. the meaning of atheism and agnosticism, whether religion causes peace or conflict, misconceptions around religion and radicalisation etc. Parents could encourage students to follow BBC News, news websites and watch documentaries related to religious and ethical themes e.g. Louis Theroux on Scientology. It would be particularly supportive if children could be taken to visit religious places of worship – temples, mosques, churches, or visit the religion section of the V&A museum.

KS3 Curriculum Map

	Half term 1	Half term 2	Half term 3	Half term 4	Half term 5	Half term 6
Year 7	World Religions (part 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition lessons (linked to letters of the lighthouse) • 6 main world religions • Christianity beliefs & practices • Islam beliefs & practices • False preachers 					Our society - Democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning of democracy • The government • Voting • Parliament & law making • Political parties • Councillors & MPs
Year 8					World Religions (part 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddhism • Sikhism • Cults & religious leaders • Religious Festivals • Religious Pilgrimage 	Our society - Values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Values • Citizenship • Tolerance • Monarchy • Criminal justice system • The Court system
Year 9						Our society - Crime & Punishment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young offenders • Knife crime • Acid attacks • Anti-social behaviour • Radicalisation & Extremism

KS4 Curriculum Map

AQA GCSE Religious Studies

	Half term 1	Half term 2	Half term 3	Half term 4	Half term 5	Half term 6
Year 10	<p>Christianity: Beliefs & Teachings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of God Evil & Suffering Creation The afterlife Jesus - Incarnation Jesus - crucifixion Jesus - resurrection Jesus – ascension Jesus – sin & salvation 	<p>Christianity: Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forms of worship Prayer The sacraments Baptism Eucharist Pilgrimage Christmas Holy week & Easter Church in the community Evangelism Persecution Reconciliation Overseas development 	<p>Islam: Beliefs & Teachings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunni – Articles of Faith Shia – Usul ad-Din Oneness of God Nature of Allah Predestination Prophets – Adam & Ibrahim Prophet Muhammad The Qur’an Other holy books (Torah, Psalms, Gospels) Angels The afterlife 	<p>Islam: Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five Pillars Shahadah Salah (Jumu’ah) Sawm Zakah Hajj The Mosque Jihad Shia – 10 obligatory acts Id-ul-Fitr/Id-ul-Adha Ashura 	<p>Theme D: Religion, Peace & Conflict</p> <p>Christian & Islam perspectives on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace & Justice Forgiveness & reconciliation Violent protest Terrorism War Nuclear Weapons Just & Holy war Religion as a cause of war Pacifism 	<p>Exam Prep & Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam prep for PPEs covering – Christianity beliefs Christianity practices Islam beliefs Islam practices Peace & Conflict <p>Exam writing techniques including how to structure 12 markers & timed practice.</p>
Year 11	<p>Theme E: Religion, Crime & Punishment</p> <p>Christian & Islam perspectives on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of crime Reasons for crime Good and evil actions Aims of punishment Treatment of criminals Prisons Corporal punishment Death penalty Forgiveness 	<p>Theme A: Relationships & Families</p> <p>Christian & Islam perspectives on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex & sexuality Marriage & cohabitation Parenting Divorce & remarriage Role of families Same-sex marriage Polygamy Gender equality & prejudice 	<p>Theme B: Religion & Life</p> <p>Christian & Islam perspectives on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science vs religion Darwin & evolution Genesis creation story Value of the world Abuse of the environment Abuse of animals Sanctity of life Abortion Euthanasia Life & the afterlife 	<p>Exam Prep & Revision Focus on exam skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> timed questions for familiarity with time limits 12 marker structure carousels. Walk/Talk mocks <p>Focus on key terms & spelling (6 extra marks for SPAG in exam)</p>	<p>Exam Prep & Revision</p>	