



Religious Studies Curriculum Overview

Years 9, 10 & 11



Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
9	<p>Topic 1 – Developing rational reasoning</p> <p>Main Question: Is belief in God rational?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Problem of Evil and The Freewill Defence. Determinism and Freewill. The Teleological Argument and Infinite Monkey Theory. <p>Students will be answering the question 'Is it rational to believe in God'. They will look through various perspectives and philosophical ideas surrounding this question. In turn this will develop their ability to consider various points of views and come to a rational informed decision when answering the question.</p>	<p>Topic 2 – An Introduction to Ethics</p> <p>1.What are Ethics and Morals?</p> <p>2.Ethical Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cloning - Robots <p>3.Utilitarianism pros and cons</p> <p>4. Activism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black Lives Matter - Climate Activism <p>Students will build on their reasoning skills and values through investigating ethical scenarios. They will look from different perspectives at the same scenario to understand how groups and individuals can interpret the same situation differently. Students are encouraged to look inwards at their own worldview and how they would interpret ethical situations and compare these to their peers. Careers link – Civil Service and HR</p>	<p>Topic 3 – Combatting Injustice</p> <p>Why do we have laws?</p> <p>Violent and non-violent protest</p> <p>British rule in India</p> <p>Gandhi's Life</p> <p>Gandhi's Activism</p> <p>Students will investigate the importance of laws and rights. They will research Gandhi to understand how injustice occurs and what can be done to combat injustice. Key concepts include; peaceful protests, activism, prejudice, discrimination and how to overcome injustice.</p>	<p>Topic 4 – Combatting Injustice</p> <p>Racism in America</p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr's life</p> <p>Civil Rights protests</p> <p>'I have a dream' and justice</p> <p>Injustice today Students will move onto looking at the life of Martin Luther King Jr and the world he grew up in. Students will reflect on how laws have changed and why it is important to live in a just society. Key concepts; racism, justice, violence and suffering.</p> <p>By the end of this unit students should reflect on how we can overcome injustice and relate issues of race, prejudice, discrimination and justice to events that may be taking place today (example; concerning LGBTQ+) Careers link – Philanthropy, Charity Organisations</p>	<p>Topic 5 – Is violence ever necessary?</p> <p>Radicalisation, Extremism and Terrorism.</p> <p>Who are Islamic State and what do they want?</p> <p>What happened at the Manchester Arena Bombing?</p> <p>Students will investigate the question 'Is violence ever necessary?'. They will learn about the development and aims of terrorism, and they will research who ISIS are and their impact globally and at the Manchester Arena Bombing</p>	<p>Topic 5 – Is violence ever necessary?</p> <p>Right Wing Extremism; including case study on Andrew Tate.</p> <p>How can we prevent terrorism in the UK?</p> <p>PREVENT Strategy in the UK.</p>



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10	The Nature of God (Religious Studies A Christianity Short Course – Christianity and Me)	Jesus and Salvation (Religious Studies A Christianity Short Course – Ethics, Morals and Jesus)	Life After Death (Religious Studies A Christianity Short Course – Life after death)	Islam Tawhid (Religious Studies A Islam Short Course – Ethics, Morals and Muhammad.)	Islam: A comparison of Sunni and Shi'a (Religious Studies A Islam Short Course – Ethics, Morals and Muhammad.)	Islam: Akirah: Life after Death. (Religious Studies A Islam Short Course – Finding meaning in Life.)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Christianity - Denominations and the importance of belonging. - What are the benefits of belief? - The Problem of Evil - The Trinity - Christian Creation - The Big Bang <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prayer and worship - The purpose of the Church - Responses to poverty <p>Mission and Evangelism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jesus' upbringing - Why is Jesus special? - Investigating parables - Comparing my values and beliefs to Christianity. - The significance of Jesus' death. <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mission case study and impact - Responses to persecution - The importance of pilgrimage - Pilgrimage case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Life after death - The afterlife and Judgement - Heaven and hell - Is it okay to sin? - The importance of salvation and atonement. <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sacraments; including baptism and holy communion - Festivals, including Easter and Christmas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How was the world created? - Was Ibrahim's message ethical? - What values can we take from Ibrahim's story? - How to challenge an unethical society. - Succession and inheritance. - Can I relate to Islamic morals? - The importance of role models. <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shahadah - Salah - Zakah <p>Sawm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What impact has Islam had globally? - What are the benefits of belief? - Is there a plan? Religious and Scientific perspectives - Are we free? Religious and Scientific perspectives. - What's the purpose of religious texts? - Denominations and the importance of belonging. - How can we be enriched through our differences (Sunni and Shi'a case study). <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hajj with documentary - Five pillars overview - The Ten Obligatory acts <p>Jihad, misconceptions and the true meaning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What happens after death? Exploring Islamic and non-religious views. - Where do society's values come from? - Can purpose be found without religion? - How can I use the skills I've learned this year in the working world? - How is what I've learned this year relevant to me? <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Id-ul-Fitr - Id-ul-Adha - Ashura - Sunni and Shi'a comparison
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students begin their GCSE in RS by investigating Christian beliefs and values. Students will decide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students investigate the ethics and morals which underpin Christian practices and decipher whether their ethics and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students finish off the first unit of their GCSE by exploring beliefs surrounding life after death. Students reflect on their own beliefs about the afterlife and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students begin their second topic in GCSE RS, with focus being on the ethics and morals underpinning Islam. Students will investigate key 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students look at Islam in relation to the world and discover which morals from Islam underpin our and other societies. They have an opportunity to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students commence their second topic in RS and focus this unit on answering the question 'What is the purpose of life?' Students investigate death and the





whether their values relate to or oppose Christian values. They will explore religious and non-religious perspectives regarding God and creation.

moral coincide with those taught within Christianity.

make comparisons to Christian and other world views on the afterlife. Students investigate what makes a person good or bad and the reasons why people make the right choices.

- **Careers link – Counsellor, Advice Worker**

people within Islam, their teaching, values and achievements.

- Students will look at themselves and discover the value and importance in attributes such as motivation, determination and drive for philanthropy.

question the purpose of religion and what good it brings to the world. Students examine philosophical concepts including 'Is our life pre-destined' and 'How much freedom do we have?' and use Islamic and non-religious perspectives to discover their personal opinions. Students will then investigate how diverse culture and differences can enrich us in the UK.

afterlife and explore if these concepts give an individual a purpose in life. They look at UK law and ethics and explore the similarities and differences between that and Islamic ethics. Students decipher different worldviews surrounding the ideas of finding purpose and meaning in life. Students evaluate the skills they have gained through RS and how they are relevant to the working world.

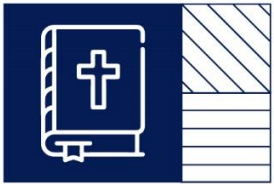
- **Careers link – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Mental Health Worker**





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11	<p>1. Sex, Marriage and Divorce (Religious Studies A Thematic Studies Short Course – Relationships and Family)</p>	<p>3. Peace, Justice, Forgiveness and Reconciliation (Religious Studies A Thematic Short Course – Peace and Conflict)</p>	<p>Short Course – Revision Full Course – Revision</p>	<p>Short Course – Revision Full Course – Revision</p>	<p>Short Course – Revision Full Course – Revision</p>	
	<p>Introduction to religious views on sex – Does it matter what our sexuality is?</p> <p>Sex outside Marriage – I What is a healthy relationship?</p> <p>Contraception – What is contraception? What are the benefits?</p> <p>Marriage – What is the value of marriage?</p> <p>Divorce- Why might divorce be the right option?</p> <p>2. The purpose of families. (Religious Studies A Thematic Studies Short Course – Relationships and Family)</p> <p>Family- What can I learn from a family?</p>	<p>Violent protest and terrorism – What leads people to turn to terrorism?</p> <p>Reasons for war – Why might countries go to war?</p> <p>Nuclear war/ weapons – Why should be avoid using nuclear weapons</p> <p>Just war- How has the Just War theory impacted society today?</p> <p>Holy War- Why might religion justify going war?</p> <p>Pacifism and Victims of War- How should victims of war be treated?</p> <p>Additional content covered in full-course:</p> <p>- Crime and Punishment</p>				





Gender Equality – how can I challenge gender prejudice?

Additional content covered in full-course:

- Religion and Life
- Origins of the Universe – What is my view on how the world came into being?
- Value of the World – How is the world useful to different people and animals?
- The use and abuse of the environment- Why should I look after the environment?
- Pollution – How can I stop causing pollution?
- The use and abuse of animals – Why are animals important?
- The origins of human life – How did human life begin?
- Abortion – Is abortion something I agree with?
- Euthanasia – Is euthanasia something I agree with?
- Death and Afterlife – What will happen when I die?

- Crime and Punishment – what is my view on crime and punishment?
- Reasons for crime – why do people commit crime in my local area?
- Attitudes to lawbreakers – Should we give people a second chance?
- Three aims of punishment- What do I think the aim of punishment should be?
- Suffering – How can we avoid suffering?
- Treatment of criminals – how should criminals be treated?
- Forgiveness – Should people always be forgiven?
- The Death Penalty – Is it necessary to have the death penalty?

Careers link – Researcher, Policy Officer, Solicitor

Careers link – Newspaper Journalist, Editorial Assistant





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