

Year 8 Religious Education

Our Religious Education provision is designed for the 21st century and goes beyond the traditional approach of describing what religious people do by delivering experiential, enactive, and enquiry-led lessons. Year 8 is focused upon introducing philosophical thinking and deepening their enquiries into specific religious traditions.

Autumn Term (Half-Terms 1 and 2)

Enquiry: Who are you?
Learning Cycle 1: To explore philosophical questions about morality.
Key Questions:
Are you a fair and just person? (Plato)
How do you know who your friends are? (Aristotle)
Should you be rewarded for your effort in school? (Confucius)
Should you let little things bother you? (Marcus Aurelius)
Is it your duty to give to charity? (Moses Maimonides)
Will having fun make you happier than studying? (J.S. Mill)
Should you ever tell a lie? (Kant)
Learning Cycle 2: To explore Christian beliefs about the Kingdom of Heaven.
Key Questions:
Does humanity deserve to survive?
How did Jesus of Nazareth build the Christian Kingdom?
What is prayer?
How to Christians pray?
What is Eucharist?

Spring Term (Half-Terms 3 and 4)

Enquiry: What value does Islam have in 21st century Britain?
Learning Cycle 1: To explore core beliefs and practices of Islam.
Key Questions:
How does the movement of our bodies affect our experience?
How do Muslims pray?
What's a Mosque?
How does Muslim art express beliefs about Allah?
What is the Qur'an?
What was the message of Muhammad (pbuh)?
Learning Cycle 2: To explore how living as a Muslim affects life in Britain.
Key Questions:
What are the Five Pillars of Islam?
How does Sawm (Ramadan) affect Muslims?
How did the story of Muhammad (pbuh) inspire the fastest growing religion in the world?
How do Muslims express worship of Allah through their actions?
What do Muslims have to say about good character and conduct?
How do the Greater and Lesser Jihad lead to positive change?

Summer Term (Half-Terms 5 and 6)

Enquiry: How might religious belief transform people's experience of life?

Learning Cycle 1: To evaluate the ideas of Buddhism for the 21st century.

Key Questions:

What is the role of myth in human stories?

Who was Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) and how did he become Enlightened?

Why might the Four Noble Truths be useful?

How might the Noble Eightfold Path transform our experience?

What difference does meditation make?

What does life in the Sangha teach us about our values?

Learning Cycle 2: To evaluate the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth.

Key Questions:

Why are Jesus' birth, baptism, execution, and ascension important to Christians?

What do his miracles teach us about Jesus?

Why did Jesus teach using parables?

To what extent is Jesus' last week the most important of his life?

Why was Jesus' execution important to Christians?

To extent can we believe the claim that Jesus rose from the dead?