

Religion and Philosophy Key Stage 3 Programme of Study



	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Year 7	Islam In this unit we investigate what it means to be a follower of Islam and how the life of a Muslim is shaped by following the Five Pillars. We look at the importance of the pilgrimage to Mecca, and the significance of the stages of the route. We consider the effect of stereotyping on Muslims today.	Multiculturalism This topic looks at what is meant by multi-culturalism and how it affects Bristol and the UK. We consider the benefits and challenges of immigration and how religious leaders have reacted to the challenges of racism.	Intro to Ethics We investigate what is meant by our conscience and how religious moral values affect decision-making. We consider the value of the Golden Rule in our lives.	Ethics 2 We explore the value of laws versus freedom and ask whether a moral code is useful when making life and death decisions, using case studies to inform our discussion.	Hinduism This unit looks at the key beliefs of the the Hindu faith including questioning whether there is one God or many, and examining the cycle of birth, life and death as presented in the teaching on Samsara.	Beliefs about God This part of the RE course allows us to investigate arguments for and against God’s existence. We look at the nature of God as revealed in three major world religions and ask whether Buddhism can count as a religion without belief in a God.
	What is Justice? How are we to judge the actions of others? Is justice the same as equality? How has religious faith influenced figures such as Maria Gomez to stand up for justice? Can justice be achieved through the death penalty? These questions will be explored in this unit.	Religious Leaders The founders of the major world religions stood out from the cultures into which they were born and left behind a legacy that is still followed by many today. We examine what they have in common, and what it means to take their messages seriously today.	Jesus- who was he, who is he? We examine the person of Jesus as known through history and through faith. We look at the significance of miracles and parables for the modern world and look at the question of why Jesus had to die.	Human Rights This topic allows us to explore key figures in the development of Human Rights such as Martin Luther King, and issues relating to Human Rights in the modern world such as Children’s Rights and the example of Malala.	Sikhism In this unit pupils find out about what it means to belong to the Khalsa, the value of equality within the Sikh community, and what it might be like to be Sikh in the modern world.	Buddhism This topic allows us to examine the key figure of the Buddha and the importance of his life and teachings on the world today. We examine Buddhist approaches to suffering, and the value of meditation in the modern world.
Year 8	21st Century Spirituality What are we to make of the rise in so-called cult groups in the 21 st Century? Pupils will examine what is meant by the word ‘cult’ and whether non-mainstream religions have something to say about our search for spirituality in the modern world.	21st Century Spirituality We continue our consideration of 21 st Century spirituality with a look at religious conflicts and the apparent rise of religious extremism. We will consider the role of faith schools and whether faith has a place in the modern world.	The Holocaust We explore the causes of anti-Jewish prejudice, and of prejudice itself, the effects of the events of the Holocaust on Jewish people and others, and what our responses might be.	The Holocaust We examine what it means to be a bystander, an upstander and a resistor. We look at the way that Judaism has responded to the events of the Shoah.	Moral Issues This unit examines the question of whether life is sacred and should be preserved at all costs. Students will examine a range of moral issues such as abortion and embryo research and consider a range of religious responses and their own.	Moral Issues Our consideration of moral issues continues with an examination of animal rights issues and the moral status of animals in various religious or moral frameworks.
Year 9						