



KS4 Curriculum Overview - Religion, Philosophy & Ethics

Your child will develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of belief, values, purpose and truth. They will develop their own attitude towards religious issues during each half term. Students will also enhance their analytical and critical thinking skills and the ability to work with abstract ideas.

Term	Year 10	Year 11
Autumn 1	Christian Beliefs - The nature and attributes of God - The Oneness of God and the Trinity - Christian and non-Christian beliefs about Creation - Life and Death of Jesus	Buddhist beliefs - The Birth of the Buddha and his life of luxury - The four sights - The Buddha's ascetic life and enlightenment - The Dhamma - The concept of dependent arising - The three marks of existence
Autumn 2	Christian Beliefs - The Resurrection and Ascension - Life after death (Heaven and Hell) and judgement - Sin and Salvation - The role of Christ in salvation	Buddhist beliefs - The Four Noble Truths - Theravada Buddhism - Mahayana Buddhism - The Arhat and Bodhisattva - Pure Land Buddhism
Spring 1	Theme A: Relationships and Families - Christian teachings about human sexuality, sexual relationships before and outside of marriage - Contraception and family planning - Marriage, divorce and remarriage - Religious teachings about the nature and purpose of families - Religious attitudes to gender equality	Buddhist practices - Places and ways of worship - Types of meditation: Samatha, Vipassana - The visualisation of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas - Ceremonies and rituals - Wesak and Parinirvana Day - Karma, Karuna and Metta - The five moral precepts and the six perfections
Spring 2	Christian Practices - Types of worship and prayer - The sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion - Pilgrimages and Festivals - The role of the church, mission and evangelism - The importance of the worldwide church - Christian persecution - The Church's responses to world poverty	Retrieval



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Summer 1	Theme B: Religion and Life - The origins of the universe and the value of the world - The use and the abuse of the environment - The use and abuse of animals - The origins of human life - Abortion and euthanasia - Death and the afterlife	Retrieval
Summer 2	Theme F: Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice - Social justice and human rights - Prejudice and discrimination - Religious freedom - Christian teachings about wealth - Poverty and its causes - Exploitation of the poor - Giving money to the poor	GCSE Public Examinations

Through the study of Philosophy and Ethics your child will be expected to develop the following knowledge, skills and understanding:

Concept / Skill 1	Concept / Skill 2
- Christian and Buddhist Beliefs and Practices - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religious, philosophical and ethical arguments related to the issues raised and their impact and influence in the modern world.	- The skill of comparing and contrasting at least 2 different religious beliefs as well as analysing and evaluating them using sources of authority. - The skill of considering non-religious beliefs, such as atheism and humanism and applying their teachings to current moral issues.

Parents can support their child by encouraging them to complete the tasks set on Google Classroom by the deadline. Additionally, purchasing the AQA Religious Studies A (9-1) Christianity and Buddhism revision guide would be beneficial to support supplementary exam practice or alternatively course textbooks wherever possible.