



Religious Studies: Year 7 Overview

Students study the 6 major world religions in Year 7 in order to ensure that they all have the required foundation knowledge to tackle the more sophisticated topic in Year 8.

Autumn 1: Christianity

Students learn about beliefs about the nature of God and the Trinity. They will learn how to find Bible chapters and verses and use these to explain how Jesus was God and fully human. They begin to learn about different Christian denominations by looking at the different baptism services.

Autumn 2: Islam

Students are introduced to Islamic beliefs about God; these are then compared to Christian beliefs. Students are introduced to the Five Pillars and then learn about the history, importance and relevance of the Qur'an. This unit finishes with a study of the physical features of a mosque and consider the place of the mosque in Islamic communities.

Spring 1: Judaism

Students learn about the concepts of sacrifice and commitment through studying the stories of Abraham and Moses. The importance of Abraham to Christianity and Islam is explored. The role of the synagogue in Jewish community is studied and allows us to consider what living Judaism looks like in the 21st Century.

Spring 2: Buddhism

Students learn about the life of the Buddha and how this influenced his teachings, which are compared and contrasted to the teachings of the three previously studied religions. Students learn about karma and enlightenment. Students also look at a case study of a practising Buddhist to see how living Buddhism functions in today's world. Students use their knowledge to consider whether Buddhism is a religion or a philosophy.

Summer 1: Hinduism

Students learn about Hindu beliefs about God and what it means to live the dharmic life. They will look at how practising Hindu beliefs impacts upon the life of a follower.

Students will learn about the cyclical nature of time in Hindu beliefs and how this affects beliefs about reincarnation and life after death. Students learn about breaking the cycle of suffering. Students will compare the Hindu temple to other religious places of worship studied.

Summer 2: Sikhism

Students learn about the foundation and founders of Sikhism and beliefs about God. They learn about the importance of the Guru Granth Sahib and how it is treated as a living guru. Students compare Sikh beliefs and practices to Christian and Hindu in order to make comparisons and contrasts. The importance of service to others is studied through a case study of a gurdwara and SWAT, the Sikh Welfare and Awareness Team.