

Curriculum Progression Pathway for Religious Studies

Subject Intent:

Religious Studies focuses on ensuring students have a baseline knowledge of core religious and non-religious beliefs and practices. There are opportunities to both learn about and learn from religion/ non-religious beliefs. The aim of the curriculum is to provide a solid foundation of fundamental beliefs within religious/ non-religious beliefs, engage with key elements of scripture, make links between these beliefs and practices, their own lives, all while building an understanding of the diverse impact it has on our world.

Why is the study of Religious Studies important?

Pupils' learning about different faiths and beliefs, both religious and non-religious, promotes an open atmosphere in lessons, where pupils can express their curiosity about the way people live by asking questions and exploring answers. This enables pupils to reflect on what influences their own actions and beliefs, whilst promoting tolerance and respect for others in the wider world. Pupils will be able to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life.

What skills will the study of Religious Studies teach students?

Disciplinary knowledge

- Source/interpretation skills of religious texts and scriptures.
- Explanation of different religious beliefs and ceremonies
- Explanation of significant and common divergent views between and/or within religions and beliefs.
- Comparison of different religious beliefs and ceremonies.
- Engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life.
- Forming a justified opinion.

- Literacy skills – extended essay writing, written and verbal communication, reading and comprehension
- Problem solving
- Forming an argument, persuading and debating
- To understand and interrogate their own position, presuppositions and values
- Empathy
- Critical thinking

Substantive Knowledge

- Core beliefs, key religious ceremonies, how religion informs daily life.
- How these beliefs inform key moral and philosophical concepts including crime and punishment, euthanasia, and matters of life and death

What will students know and understand from the study of Religious Studies?

By the end of their academic journey, students in Religious Studies will demonstrate greater knowledge of religions and worldviews, be able to express and communicate ideas related to religions and worldviews as well as developing skills (knowing how) for studying religions and non-religions.

This enables pupils to reflect on key sources of scripture and/or sacred texts to understand the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies and the common and divergent views between and/or within religions and beliefs. Lessons promote wider skills in order to analyse questions related to religious beliefs and values and construct well-informed and balanced arguments on matters concerned with religious beliefs and values set out in the subject content.

How does the study of Religious Studies support students learning in other subjects?

Cross curricular links have been established with subjects such Philosophy and Ethics and also the GCSE element of Religious Studies at KS4. It

also has links with History through the Holocaust and critical and debating skills which supports English e.g. mock court case presentation.

How can you deepen students' understanding of Religious Studies?

The Curriculum is cyclical and students revisit topics that they have discussed at KS2 to further develop their knowledge, understanding, skills and coping strategies. At Key Stage 3, Religious Studies follows the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus – the big questions; looking at different religious and non-religious perspectives, by establishing;

- Links and the interconnections between and within different religions/non-religious beliefs and
- Identifying similarities and differences between different religions/non-religious beliefs.

How can Religious Studies support students' future progression?

Transferable skills e.g. communication, problem solving, critical thinking, discussion, debate, creating an argument the ability to identify, establish and explore interconnections between and within different belief systems.

Students can go on to study Religious Studies at A level and degree level (including Masters and PHD). Religious Studies is valued as a subject by many employers and can lead into a vast variety of different forms of employment. Examples include; police, lawyer, government, community development officer, civil service, advice worker and media.

Exam board used in Y10 & Y11

Edexcel Specification B short course

Current Year 11 follow the AQA short course

CURRICULUM PROGRESSION PATHWAY

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
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Autumn 1	To Investigate Sikhism	Question 3.4: Is death the end?	Question 3.1: Do we need to prove God's existence?		
Autumn 2	To investigate Buddhism	Question 3.11 What difference does it make to believe in...?	Question 3.12: Is religion a power for peace or a cause for conflict in the world today?	Buddhism; the four noble truths	Crime and punishment
Spring 1	To investigate Islam	Question 3.2: Does living biblically mean obeying the whole bible.	Question 3.5: Why is there suffering?		
Spring 2	Question 3.3: Is Jesus still a radical?	Question 3.9: Should happiness be the purpose of life?	Buddhism; the four noble truths	Buddhist ethics and principles	Matter of Life and Death
Summer 1	Question 3.8: What is good and challenging about being a teenage Sikh/ Christian/	Question 3.6: Should Religious Buildings be sold to raise money?	Buddhist ethics and principles		

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LEARNING TRUST

	Muslim?				
Summer 2	Question 3.10: Does religion help people to be good?	Question 3.7: How can we express the spiritual through Music and Art?	Buddhist pilgrimages and festivals	Buddhist pilgrimages and festivals	