

Department Information:

Philosophy and Religion (PR) is taught once a week in Year 7, ensuring that students have a clear understanding of their own faith and that of others within their local, national and global community.
Students study a wide range of topics to explore religion in depth and debate big questions. These include A-Z of Religion, Big Questions, The Big Story and Islam at year 7.

ACHIEVE in the curriculum:

Ambition as students explore a range of religions and new concepts, in particular looking at Christianity and Islam in depth.
Integrity as students understand different ways of life and respecting other's beliefs and opinions.
Versatility through different beliefs and the understanding that not all questions have an answer.

Curriculum Aims & Intent:

The year 7 curriculum offers pupils a vast introduction to Philosophy and Religion across different topics and religions. It will provide pupils with a good base knowledge of various religious beliefs, whilst also beginning to study some areas such as Christianity and Islam in a greater depth. The curriculum is also designed to support students as they progress through each year group, as for example students will study the importance of Jesus which allows them to have a greater understanding of Christian practices in year 9.
Students will also begin to develop key skills such as analysing key religious beliefs and developing an evaluative writing style that they will continue to work on throughout each year in the PR curriculum.

Resources:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt>
<https://www.thenational.academy/teachers/programmes/religious-education-secondary-ks3-1/units>

How we keep parents informed:

Year 7 - Progress reports are published 4 times per year, in October, December, April and July, with a face-to-face parents' evening in May.

How parents can help their child:

Support to ensure home learning is completed for the deadline and organisation.
Support with understanding of subject specific key words.
Developing written literacy, ensuring any home learning where necessary is completed in full sentences and using paragraphs.

What we study and when:

Term	Unit, Topic Or Summary Of Work Covered	Knowledge, Understanding & Skills Developed	ACHIEVE / Personal Development Focus	How The Work Is Assessed	Careers Links
1	A-Z of Religion	A study of key terms such as atheist, agnostic and omnipotent, the creation of the world, worship, goddesses, Jesus	Ambitious – To explore a range of religions and to understand challenging new concepts.	Students will complete an assessment in lesson at the end of term one with a variety	A-Z of religion, students chose a career from A-Z and
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		across different religions, food laws, Humanism and smaller religions.	Integrity – Students will reflect this value throughout the unit when learning and understanding different ways of life. Versatility – Students will be gaining an understanding of a range of different religious beliefs, and how these compare and contrast.	of questions to assess knowledge so far and different written skills.	completed research and creative work into that job. Religious food laws and understanding how this impacts careers in catering.
3	Big Questions	An introduction into what big questions are. Studying some big questions in further depth such as: What is the meaning of life? Do we have a soul? Do we have free will? Why is there suffering?	Versatility – To understand ultimate questions cannot have definitive answers, students will be exploring different perspectives of big questions. Integrity – To be respectful of other student’s personal beliefs and ideas about ultimate questions, students will be showing this throughout the unit. Happy – To debate ideas with fellow students.	Students will research a big question of their choice at the end of the topic and in lesson complete an in depth essay exploring different points of view into their question.	
4	The Person of Jesus	A link back to prior learning about Jesus, exploring ideas of if Jesus is more than a human through the miracles, his birth, death and resurrection.	Ambition – To analyse and evaluate the greater meaning behind the events in Jesus’ life	Students will complete a written piece of work at the end of the topic based on their overall opinion on if Jesus is more than a human – this will be a peer assessed piece of work.	Visits from Wayne Dixon – looking at Christianity in action. He discusses his job as part of this.
5 6	Islam	An introduction into what Muslims believe, the Prophet Muhammad, the Qur’an, moral rules, Sunni and Shia. An in depth study of each of the five pillars of Islam.	Ambitious – To understand Islam as a religion and some of the key teachings Integrity – To be respectful of other student’s personal beliefs and the importance of the five pillars within Islam.	At the end of term 5 students will complete an assessment that not only reflects Islam content but recalls content from the Person of Jesus in term 4. This will be various questions styles they complete in lesson.	The link between Islam and careers, how beliefs can affect careers. Role of Hajj coordinators.