

Religious Studies



Theme/ Concept	KS2	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Post-16
Beliefs: Key beliefs and concepts	What do different people believe about God? What do Christians believe? Why is Jesus inspiring to some people? What do Muslims believe? What difference does it make to believe in ahimsa, grace and ummah?	Early Beliefs Beliefs about how religion developed; beliefs about animism; beliefs about life after death and the soul. Christianity part 1 Beliefs about creation, including sanctity of life; beliefs about the origins of sin; beliefs about God and monotheism; beliefs about prophets; beliefs about sacrifice. Christianity part 2 Beliefs about how Christianity began; key events in the life of Jesus, including the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection; beliefs about Jesus' miracles and parables. Islam Beliefs about how Islam began; key beliefs in Islam, including Tawhid, prophethood and life after death.	Islam Beliefs about how Islam began; key beliefs in Islam, including Tawhid, prophethood and life after death. Buddhism How did Buddhism begin; key beliefs, including suffering, impermanence and no permanent soul; beliefs about life after death; the Five Precepts. Sikhi How did Sikhi begin; key beliefs and stories of the Gurus; key beliefs, including beliefs about God (Wahaguru), karma and reincarnation; beliefs about the Khalsa and Seva. Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics Beliefs about life after death; beliefs and arguments for and against the existence of God; beliefs about the problem of evil and suffering; the Divine Command theory, for example the Ten Commandments.	Medical Ethics Christian: Beliefs about the sanctity of life, linked to the creation story and the Ten Commandments; beliefs about when life begins; beliefs about the quality of life. Islam: Beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about when life begins, including ensoulment; beliefs about abortion being haram; beliefs about cloning. Buddhism: Beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about when life begins, including karma; beliefs about abortion, including the Five Precepts and ahimsa. Humanism: Beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about cannot be sanctity of life; beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about manism: Beliefs about the sanctity of life; beliefs about when life begins; beliefs about abortion. Ethics of war & peace Christian: Jesus' teachings about conflict; beliefs about nuclear weapons; St Thomas Aquinas' just war theory; beliefs about pacifism. Islam: Beliefs about nuclear weapons lesser jihad; beliefs about pacifism. Buddhism: Beliefs about nuclear weapons beliefs about pacifism. Buddhism: Beliefs about nuclear weapons beliefs about pacifism. Humanism: Beliefs about nuclear weapons.	Christian Beliefs The nature of God and the Trinity; the problem of evil and suffering; beliefs about creation; beliefs about life after death; beliefs about Jesus - incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension; beliefs about sin and salvation. Islam Beliefs The Sunni six articles of faith and the Shi'a five roots of Usul ad-Din; The nature of God and Tawhid; beliefs about predestination; beliefs about angels; beliefs about life after death; beliefs about prophethood and the imamate.	Christian and Muslim beliefs about the following themes (with some Humanist, Hindu, Buddhist beliefs: Theme A: Relationships and families Homosexuality; purpose of sex; cohabitation; marriage; adultery; divorce; contraception; nature and purpose of families; gender equality. Theme B: Religion and life Origins of the universe and life - creation stories and scientific theories; stewardship and dominion; use and abuse of natural resources and pollution; use and abuse of animals; sanctity of life; abortion and euthanasia; beliefs about the afterlife. Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment Good and evil; reasons for crime; attitudes to law breakers; types of crime; aims of punishment; treatment of criminals; forgiveness; the death penalty. Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice Equality, prejudice and discrimination; the status and treatment of women; freedom of religious expression; homosexuality; beliefs about the Golden Rule; social justice; human rights; uses of wealth; poverty	Study of Religion - religious beliefs, values and teachings, including how they vary historically and in the contemporary world.

Theme/ Concept	KS2	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Post-16
Practices	Why do people pray? What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today? Keeping the five pillars of Islam: how do Muslim beliefs make a difference to their way of living? Why are festivals important in religious communities? What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?	Early Beliefs Rituals and shamanism. Christianity part 1 The ritual of sacrifice to atone for sins; the ritual of the Eucharist/ Holy Communion/ Mass. Islam Key features of the mosque and why they are important; the Five Pillars of Islam – Shahadah (declaration of faith), Salah (prayer 5 times a day), Sawm (fasting), Zakah (charity) and Hajj (pilgrimage); the festival of Id ul-Fitr.	Islam Key features of the mosque and why they are important; the Five Pillars of Islam – Shahadah (declaration of faith), Salah (prayer 5 times a day), Sawm (fasting), Zakah (charity) and Hajj (pilgrimage); the festival of Id ul-Fitr. Buddhism How Buddhists worship, including features of a shrine; a Buddhist festival – Wesak – which celebrates the birth, death and enlightenment of the Buddha. Sikhi The Five Ks; the Gurdwara; Langar; the festival of Diwali.	Ethics of war and peace Christian: Martin Luther King Jnr and the Civil Rights Movement; Dietrich Bonhoeffer - why did he abandon his pacifist beliefs? Islam: Lesser jihad; Malala Yousafzai and her activism for girls' and women's rights.	Christian Practices Differing types of worship and prayer; the Sacraments, including Baptism and the Eucharist; Christian pilgrimage to Lourdes and lona; Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter; the role of the Church in the local community; Church growth, mission and evangelism; the Church and reconciliation; Christian responses to persecution and poverty. Islam Practices The Five Pillars of Sunni Islam (Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Zakah and Hajj) and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam (including focus on Jihad and Khums); Greater and Lesser Jihad; the festivals Id ul-Fitr, Id ul-Adha and Ashura.	Christian and Muslim practices about the following themes (with some Humanist, Hindu, Buddhist beliefs: Theme A: Relationships and families Some denominations do not all homosexual or female Church leaders; the role of parents to bring children up in their faith. Theme B: Religion and life Some religious believers will take care of the environment due to the duty of stewardship. Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment Supporting reformation of criminals through programmes in prison and community service; Shari'ah Law in Muslim countries; opposing unjust laws. Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice Some religious believers will give to charity to help the poor; some believers will campaign for human rights or join organisations supporting human rights;	Study of Religion - religious practices which shape and express religious identity, including diversity of practice within a tradition.

Theme/ Concept	KS2	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Post-16
Sources of authority	Why is the Bible important for Christians today? Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?	Early Beliefs Ancient Greek myths, Pandora's Box and King Midas, and what morals they taught. Christianity part 1 What the Bible is; Genesis 1 creation story; Genesis 3 the Fall (sin); Exodus 20 the Ten Commandments; Leviticus 1 how sacrifice was performed. Christianity part 2 Stories from the New Testament about Jesus' miracles and the Parable of the Lost Son – what do these teach Christians about Jesus and how to behave? Islam The life of Prophet Muhammad; Surah 112 from the Qur'an (Tawhid); references to the Prophets linked to Hajj rituals.	Islam The life of Prophet Muhammad; Surah 112 from the Qur'an (Tawhid); references to the Prophets linked to Hajj rituals. Buddhism The story of the early life of the Buddha and the four sights; the story of Kisa and the Mustard Seed which teaches key beliefs of suffering and impermanence. Sikhi The story of Guru Nanak and other selected Gurus; the Guru Granth Sahib. Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics Story of Saul's revelation in the New Testament; the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 (Divine Command Theory).	Sources of authority are used throughout Medical Ethics and Ethics of War and Peace to support the learning of these units. These sources include: the Bible; Jesus' parables; Christian Saints; the Pope; the Qur'an; the Hadith; the Five Pillars; the Buddha; Buddhist texts; the Five Precepts.	Christian Beliefs References to sources of authority are used throughout this unit to support learning of the key beliefs. These sources include: the Bible; the Nicene Creed; the Apostles' Creed; the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Islam Beliefs References to sources of authority are used throughout this unit to support learning of the key beliefs. These sources include: the Qur'an; the Hadith; the Sunnah.	Sources of authority are used throughout the four themes to support the learning of the themes. These sources include: the Bible; Jesus' parables; the Lord's Prayer; Christian Saints; the Pope; the Qur'an; the Hadith; the Sunnah; the Five Pillars.	Study of Religion - sources of wisdom and authority, including scripture/ sacred texts, key religious figures and their teachings.

Theme/ Concept	KS2	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Post-16
Philosophy	Why do some people believe God exists?	Early Beliefs How did religion begin? The theories of Durkheim and Aslan; beliefs about the existence of the soul. Christianity part 1 How does the story of the Fall explain the existence of evil and suffering in the world? Christianity part 2 Was the resurrection an historical event? The theories of N.T Wright and Bultmann. Islam What is the nature of God? What is Akhirah (life after death)?	Islam What is the nature of God? What is Akhirah (life after death)? Buddhism The concepts of dukkha, anicca and anatta; how do Buddhists reduce suffering through the Eightfold Path? What happens after death? Sikhi Sikhi concepts of karma and the Guru Granth Sahib as a living Guru; Sikhs follow the philosophy of seva the concept of selfless service due to the belief that all people are equal. Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics What is philosophy? What are ultimate questions? Arguments for and against the existence of God; questions about religious experiences, such as miracles, conversions and near-death experiences; the problem of evil and suffering.	Medical Ethics When does life begin? Does a clone have a soul? Would a human clone be the same as naturally conceived human? Is it right to clone? When is it right to end life? Ethics of war and peace Does the Holocaust question the existence of a God? What is the banality of evil?	Philosophical themes and questions run throughout both Christian and Muslim beliefs units. These include: the nature of God; beliefs about predestination; beliefs about the nature of angels; beliefs about life after death.	Philosophical themes and questions run throughout the 4 themes. These include: the origins of the universe and life; the sanctity and quality of life; beliefs about what happens after death; good and evil actions and intentions; the concepts of justice and forgiveness.	Philosophy of religion - philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief, including challenges to religious belief.

Theme/ Concept	KS2	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Post-16
Ethics and morality	What can we learn from religions about deciding what is right and wrong? What would Jesus do? What matters most to Christians and Humanists?	Early Beliefs What morals can be learnt from the Ancient Greek Myths? Christianity part 1 The Ten Commandments as moral guides for Christians. Christianity part 2 What morals can be learnt from the Parable of the Lost Son? Islam Zakah as duty to care for those in need; Sawm as a practice which enables empathy with those less fortunate.	Islam Zakah as duty to care for those in need; Sawm as a practice which enables empathy with those less fortunate. Buddhism The concept of karma and ahimsa; the Five Precepts. Sikhi The concept of seva. Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics What is ethics/moral philosophy? What are absolute and relative morality? The Divine Command theory and Utilitarianism.	Medical Ethics The hot air balloon dilemma; The case study of Jodie and Mary; When does life begin? The ethics of abortion; the ethics of cloning; the ethics of euthanasia. Ethics of war and peace Jesus' teachings about violence and conflict; the ethics of nuclear weapons; can war ever be justified? Does pacifism work? Prejudice and discrimination; the Holocaust.	Ethics and morality themes are found in some of the topics in Year 10 GCSE. For example, in both Christian and Islam Beliefs, pupils will learn about who goes to heaven and hell; another example is learning about the Pillar of Zakah in Islam (charity)	Christian and Muslim attitudes towards the following ethical issues (with some Humanist, Hindu, Buddhist and Utilitarian attitudes): Theme A: Relationships and families Theme B: Religion and life Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice	Religion and Ethics - ethical language and thought, including the work of key thinkers; ethical theories; the application of ethical theories.