

Year 9 Religious Studies

Curriculum



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Introduction

Our focus will be exploring the role of religion in shaping individuals and societies.

Aims:

- To promote students' personal, social, and emotional development.
- To equip students with the knowledge, skills, and understanding to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.
- To help students develop positive relationships with others.
- To foster students' understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Key Topics:

1. Where do we look for God?

- Explore different religious conceptions of God, including monotheism, polytheism, and pantheism.
- Discuss how different cultures and religions perceive and experience God's presence in the world.
- Analyse the role of religious texts, rituals, and practices in connecting individuals to God.

2. What does justice mean to Christians?

- Examine the concept of justice in Christian theology, including divine justice, social justice, and individual justice.
- Analyse biblical passages that address themes of justice, such as the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and the parable of the Good Samaritan.
- Discuss how Christian principles of justice are applied to contemporary social issues, such as poverty, inequality, discrimination, and environmental injustice.



3. Religious figure: Religious figure (generic)

- Choose a significant religious figure from a different religion (e.g., Muhammad in Islam, Siddhartha Gautama in Buddhism, Moses in Judaism) and explore their life, teachings, and impact.
- Analyse how their teachings and actions have shaped the beliefs and practices of their respective religions.

4. Beliefs and practices: Beliefs and practice (generic)

- Examine the core beliefs and practices of a different religion (e.g., the Five Pillars of Islam, the Eightfold Path in Buddhism, the Ten Commandments in Judaism).
- Analyse how these beliefs and practices influence the lives of individuals and communities.

5. Fundamental questions: What are we doing to the environment?

- Discuss the environmental challenges facing the world, such as climate change, pollution, and deforestation.
- Examine religious perspectives on environmental stewardship and the responsibility of humans to care for the planet.
- Analyse how religious teachings and practices can inspire and guide ethical actions towards the environment.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of Year 9, students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of citizenship and its responsibilities.
- Explore the role of religion in promoting ethical behaviour.
- Analyse the relationship between religion and environmental issues.
- Develop a critical understanding of the impact of religious beliefs on society..



Activities and Assessments:

- Research the role of religious organizations in promoting social change.
- Analyse religious texts related to environmental ethics.
- Participate in debates on the role of religion in public life.
- Create a project on a religious organization that is working to address a social issue.
- Write reflective essays on personal experiences and observations related to religion, ethics, and citizenship.
- Develop presentations on specific religious topics.
- Collaborate on group projects to compare and contrast different religious perspectives on social justice and environmental stewardship.

Resources

- Books
- Online resources
- Videos and films
- Visits to places of worship

Evaluation and Review

The curriculum will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness. Feedback from students, teachers, and parents will be considered in the review process.

Updated August 2024

Next review: August 2025