



Year 8 Religious Studies

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topics	Philosophical questioning and enquiry. Why do we do Religious studies? Who do we meet in Religious Studies? What can we learn from Religion?	Philosophical questions. 1. Can you prove God exists? 2. Can you prove God doesn't exist? 3. Do miracles happen? 4. Can God be experienced?	Ethical questions. 1. Does right and wrong depend on the situation? 2. What does religion say is right or wrong? 3. Should we show compassion to the poor? 4. How do people in Worcestershire help the poor?	Philosophical questions. 1. Is there such a thing as a soul? 2. Why do people believe in reincarnation? 3. Is there a heaven or hell? 4. How does life after death affect life?	Ethics questions. 1. Is our life determined? 2. Do we have free will? 3. Are we responsible for our actions? 4. How should we live our lives?	Revision and preparation for end of year exam. Introduction to Sikhism. 1. Sikh beliefs and background.
Assessment	Formal Written Assessment	Formal Written Assessment	Formal Written Assessment	Formal Written Assessment	Formal Written Assessment	Formal Written Assessment PPE

Building on Prior Learning	RS builds on prior learning by recapping prior knowledge before further teaching ensures that students link not only knowledge gained in recent lessons, but also link practices and applied ethics to religious beliefs and teachings (which may have been taught in previous years).
Links with other subjects	The department has close links with other subjects, particularly History, English, Science, PSHE, Psychology and Sociology. Topics include War and Peace, Human Rights, Relationships and Families, Religion and Life, Crime and Punishment. Aside from this there are obvious links to English as the subject is examined through writing both short responses and extended pieces of writing.
Extracurricular opportunities	An annual visit for year 9 to a Gurdwara enables students to experience Sikhism, particularly langar in action.
A successful learner in this subject will demonstrate	Successful RS students will habitually use subject knowledge organisers and be able to use religious terminology in context. They will also be able to explain Christian and Sikh beliefs and apply this to understand how this affects their religious and ethical practices.
Impact on personal development	Religious Studies aims to help students become respectful and tolerant members of communities. It also attempt to develop their critical analysis and reasoning skills. Although not a direct aim of the subject, studying RS (particularly discussion of philosophical and ethical matters) may lead students to develop spiritual, morally, socially and or culturally.



Ways to support student learning in this subject

1. Go through the Knowledge organiser a couple of times a week to learn the key terms and beliefs.
2. Use Quizlet to help to learn the key words and beliefs.
3. Discuss the different elements of the course that may be controversial particularly in years 10 and 11.