

Programme of Study: Religious Education



KS2 Underpinning Concepts		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	KS5 & CEIAG Opportunities	Links to SMSC
Beliefs and Teachings Understanding core beliefs of major world religions (e.g. Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism, Buddhism). Exploring sacred texts and stories. Recognising how beliefs influence daily life and moral choices. Practices and Lifestyles Learning about religious rituals, festivals, and worship. Comparing how different faiths celebrate key events (e.g. Diwali, Ramadan, Easter). Understanding the role of places of worship and religious leaders. Expression and Identity Exploring how religion shapes identity and community. Understanding symbols, art, music, and language in religious expression. Encouraging respect for diversity and personal reflection. Values and Commitments Discussing moral and ethical teachings (e.g. kindness, forgiveness, justice). Exploring how religious and non-religious worldviews guide decision-making. Encouraging pupils to reflect on their own values and commitments. Meaning and Purpose Asking big questions: Why are we here? What is right and wrong? What happens after death? Encouraging philosophical thinking and respectful dialogue. Making connections between religious ideas and pupils' own experiences.	Autumn 1	Creation and Covenant Catholic beliefs about creation: God as Creator, Genesis accounts, and human dignity. Purpose of life: Understanding vocation, covenant, and moral responsibility. Scripture: Key Old Testament figures (e.g. Abraham, Noah) and their role in God's covenant. Worldviews: Introduction to philosophical and scientific perspectives on creation.	Creation and Covenant Sin and Suffering: Exploring why evil exists and how it affects humanity. Consence: Understanding how Catholics use conscience to make moral decisions. God's Laws: Evaluating the relevance of divine laws in today's world.	Creation and Covenant Human Life and Morality: What makes human life sacred and unique. Moral Decision-Making: How Catholics apply conscience and Church teaching. Ethical Issues: Catholic perspectives on abortion, euthanasia, and IVF.	Jewish Beliefs Beliefs about God: Monotheism, covenant, and divine attributes. Messiah: Jewish expectations and beliefs about the coming of the Messiah. Law and Freewill: Importance of the Torah and human responsibility. Afterlife: Jewish views on life after death and moral accountability.	Good and Evil (continued) Problem of Evil: Investigating how suffering challenges belief in a loving God. Catholic Responses: Exploring theological answers such as free will, original sin, and redemptive suffering. Faith and Hope: How belief in God helps Catholics find meaning and act with compassion in a suffering world.	Academic Opportunities at KS5: A Level Religious Studies: Philosophy, Ethics, and Theology. Extended Project Qualification (EPQ): Research topics in religion, ethics, or philosophy. Interdisciplinary Links: Sociology, History, Psychology, Politics. Career Pathways: Education: Teaching, lecturing, curriculum development. Law: Ethics, human rights, legal advocacy. Healthcare: Chaplaincy, counselling, pastoral care. Social Work: Community outreach, youth work, support services. Journalism & Media: Religious affairs reporting, ethics commentary. Politics & Public Service: Policy-making, diplomacy, interfaith relations. Charity & NGO Work: Faith-based organisations, humanitarian aid. Ministry & Theology: Priesthood, religious leadership, theological research.	Spiritual Development: Pupils explore and appreciate different teachings and religious traditions. Lessons encourage reflection on life's big questions, beliefs, and values. Activities promote empathy, personal growth, and understanding of diverse worldviews. Moral Development: Pupils examine ethical teachings and moral dilemmas across religions. Topics include justice, forgiveness, equality, and social responsibility. Encourages critical thinking and personal reflection on right and wrong. Social Development: Group work and discussion foster communication and teamwork. Pupils engage in respectful dialogue and learn to appreciate differing opinions. Builds confidence and resilience through collaborative learning. Cultural Development: Pupils study religious practices, festivals, and global traditions. Encouraged to challenge stereotypes and embrace diversity. Use of media and authentic materials supports cultural awareness.
	Autumn 2	Prophecy and Promise Revelation: How God reveals Himself through the Old and New Testaments. Scripture: Role of prophets and Jesus in communicating God's message. Impact: How scripture continues to guide and inspire Catholics today.	Prophecy and Promise Old Testament Prophets: Their role in guiding and challenging God's people. Jesus as Fulfilment: How Jesus completes the messages of the prophets. Modern Inspiration: How Catholics today are inspired to speak and live out God's word.	Prophecy and Promise Women of the Old Testament: Their roles in carrying forward God's message. Faith and Leadership: How these figures demonstrated courage and commitment. Role Models: How their lives inspire Catholics today to live faithfully and speak truth.	Origins and Meanings Creation and the Universe: Catholic beliefs from Genesis about God as Creator, alongside scientific views like the Big Bang and evolution. Purpose of Life: Exploring human dignity, vocation, and the meaning of existence from religious and philosophical perspectives. Faith and Expression: How religious art and symbolism express beliefs about origins and purpose.	Life After Death Beliefs about the Afterlife: Catholic teachings on resurrection, judgment, heaven, hell, and purgatory. Non-Religious Views: Secular and philosophical perspectives on death and what may follow. Impact on Followers: How beliefs about life after death influence moral choices, hope, and attitudes toward suffering and loss.		
	Spring 1	Galilee to Jerusalem Identity of Jesus: Understanding who Jesus is through His titles (e.g. Son of God, Messiah, Saviour). Role Model: How Jesus' life and teachings provide a model for Christian living. Mission and Ministry: Key events from Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem and their significance.	Galilee to Jerusalem Jesus' Ministry: Focus on His teachings and actions during His public life. Kingdom of God: Understanding Jesus' vision for a just and compassionate world. Catholic Action: How Catholics today live out Jesus' mission by serving the vulnerable.	Galilee to Jerusalem Christ's Message: Understanding Jesus' teachings and their relevance to day. Living the Faith: Exploring how Catholics live out discipleship through vocations and lay apostolic organisations. Faith in Action: Reflecting on practical ways to bring Christ's message into the world.	Jewish Practices Worship: Varied forms including synagogue services and prayer at home. Food Laws: Kashruth (dietary laws) and their significance. Rituals and Festivals: Key practices such as Shabbat, Passover, and Yom Kippur. Belief in Action: How Jewish beliefs shape daily life and community identity.	Sin and Forgiveness Redemption and Salvation: Understanding how Jesus' sacrifice offers forgiveness and eternal life. Catholic Beliefs: The role of grace, repentance, and reconciliation in healing relationships with God. Living Faithfully: How these teachings influence Catholic moral choices and participation in the sacraments.		
	Spring 2	Desert to Garden Paschal Mystery: Understanding Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension. Eucharist: How the Eucharist makes the Paschal Mystery present today. Salvation: The significance of Jesus' sacrifice in saving Catholics and offering reconciliation with God.	Desert to Garden Purpose of Suffering: Exploring why suffering exists and its potential meaning. Jesus' Sacrifice: Understanding how His suffering led to redemption. Catholic Response: How this inspires Catholics to act with compassion, especially during Lent.	Desert to Garden Sacrifice of Jesus: Central to Catholic faith, highlighting salvation and redemption. Covenant Origins: Understanding the relationship between God and His people. Forgiveness and Reconciliation: The need for Catholics to seek healing through faith and sacraments.	Good and Evil Problem of Evil: Exploring how suffering challenges belief in a loving and all-powerful God. Catholic Responses: Theological explanations including free will, original sin, and redemptive suffering. Faith in Action: How belief in God influences Catholic responses to suffering and injustice.	REVISION & PREPARATION FOR GCSE FINAL EXAMS		
	Summer 1	To the Ends of the Earth The Great Commission: Jesus' command to spread the Gospel to all nations. Holy Spirit: How the Spirit empowered the apostles and continues to guide believers. Confirmation: Understanding the sacrament as a personal reception of the Holy Spirit and commitment to faith.	To the Ends of the Earth Resurrection: Catholic belief in Jesus rising from the dead and its significance. Life to Come: The promise of eternal life and hope beyond death. Impact on Catholics: How these beliefs shape attitudes, actions, and spiritual practices.	To the Ends of the Earth Church History: Understanding the origins and development of the Catholic Church. Church on Earth and in Heaven: Exploring the Church as both a visible community and a spiritual reality. Catholic Beliefs: How these teachings shape identity, worship, and hope in eternal life.	Good and Evil Problem of Evil: Exploring how suffering challenges belief in a loving and all-powerful God. Catholic Responses: Theological explanations including free will, original sin, and redemptive suffering. Faith in Action: How belief in God influences Catholic responses to suffering and injustice.	REVISION & PREPARATION FOR GCSE FINAL EXAMS		
	Summer 2	Dialogue and Encounter: Sikhism Core Beliefs: Understanding Sikh beliefs about God, equality, service, and the importance of the Guru. Practices: Key rituals, worship in the Gurdwara, and the role of the Guru Granth Sahib. Impact: How Sikh beliefs influence daily life, identity, and community values.	Dialogue and Encounter: Islam Core Beliefs: Understanding Islamic beliefs about Allah, prophethood, and the Five Pillars. Practices: Daily rituals, prayer, fasting, and pilgrimage. Impact: How Islamic teachings shape the lives, values, and identity of Muslim followers.	Dialogue and Encounter: Buddhism Core Beliefs: Understanding Buddhist teachings such as the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. Philosophy and Practice: Focus on mindfulness, meditation, and the pursuit of enlightenment. Impact: How Buddhist beliefs shape followers' daily lives, values, and ethical choices.	Good and Evil Problem of Evil: Exploring how suffering challenges belief in a loving and all-powerful God. Catholic Responses: Theological explanations including free will, original sin, and redemptive suffering. Faith in Action: How belief in God influences Catholic responses to suffering and injustice.	REVISION & PREPARATION FOR GCSE FINAL EXAMS		