



## Key Stage 3 Curriculum: Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

The Religion, Philosophy and Ethics curriculum incorporates elements of Religious Education and strongly emphasises students' own experience. Our curriculum seeks to promote personal development, self-awareness and spiritual exploration from a student-centred approach.

- ❖ *“Religion” is concerned with looking at the key world religions, other spiritual world-views, atheism, and other secular viewpoints. As well as learning about the beliefs and practices of others, students are encouraged to reflect upon their own beliefs and values.*
- ❖ *“Philosophy” is concerned with reflecting on ultimate questions in life such as ‘How did the Universe begin?’ and ‘What happens when we die?’ Students are encouraged to ask questions about the world around them, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of philosophical responses.*
- ❖ *“Ethics” is concerned with issues of right and wrong. Here students learn about religious and secular viewpoints on controversial matters, as well as developing their own viewpoints.*

Students are taught the following topics in each year:

### **Year 7:**

Key Question: What is Religion?

Topics: looking for God, the world religions, religious practices in other cultures.

### **Year 8**

Key Question: How do beliefs affect actions and peoples' lives?

Topics: Malala, Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Malcolm X, The Buddha and his teachings, Jesus and his teachings, terrorism and peace.

### **Year 9**

Key question: Who am I and how do I make sense of the world around me?

Topics: morality, the sanctity of life, who am I?, The nature of God.