

What are the aims and intentions of this curriculum?

The aim of our Key Stage 4 Curriculum is to develop students that think critically, deeply and reflectively about the religion and philosophical issues. Students that respect diversity and the views of others, whilst resisting extremist narrative through their use of critical thinking. This will build on the skills learnt at Key Stage 3 to ensure the best results for their GCSE Religious Education.

Term	Topics	Knowledge and key terms	Skills developed	Assessment
Autumn 1	GCSE Unit 1– Life and Death	Students will gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of life from various perspectives and analyse what happens after death. Links to PSHE curriculum as this unit discusses death and bereavement. Key terms: Afterlife, evolution, abortion, sanctity of life, euthanasia.	Developing skills of empathy, understanding of sanctity of life and mortality using critical thinking.	Formative assessment based on an extended piece of writing using a “ Think Pink , (teacher marked) Go Green (student response)” feedback sheet.
Autumn 2	GCSE Unit 1 - Good and Evil	Students will analyse and evaluate using various case studies the possible reasons for good and evil in the world from religious and non-religious perspectives. Links to PSHE curriculum by exploring the positives of good actions in the present. Key terms: Free will, sin, suffering, punishment, justice.	Students will analyse and evaluate different sources to assess the actions of others.	Exam style questions including an extended essay question based on topic 1 and 2.
Spring 1	GCSE Unit 1 – Human Rights	Students will evaluate how religious and non-religious views can influence different people’s behaviour to uphold or go against human rights. Links to the PSHE curriculum as this unit explores the concepts of censorship. The careers of various religious and non-religious activists will be analysed like Malala Yousafzai and Martin Luther King. Key terms: Personal conviction, extremism, prejudice, poverty.	Develop skills of research, analyse and evaluate different religious and secular views about human rights.	Formative assessment based on an extended piece of writing using a “ Think Pink , (teacher marked) Go Green (student response)” feedback sheet.
Spring 2	GCSE Unit 1 – Human Rights	Students will explore the concept of conflict and forgiveness within religion. Links to the PSHE curriculum by discussing the impact forgiveness can have on mental wellbeing. Key terms: Personal conviction, extremism, prejudice, poverty.	Develop skills of research, analyse and evaluate different religious and secular views about conflict today.	Exam style questions including an extended essay question on topics 1-4.

Summer 1	GCSE Unit 2 – Christian Beliefs	<p>Students will understand the religious traditions of Great Britain exploring the life and death of Jesus and his importance to Christians today.</p> <p>Key terms: Nature of God, creation, salvation, the afterlife.</p>	Develop skills of interpretation of biblical text and analyse their importance to Christians today.	Formative assessment based on an extended piece of writing using a “ Think Pink , (teacher marked) Go Green (student response)” feedback sheet.
Summer 2	GCSE Unit 2 – Christian Beliefs	<p>Students will understand the religious traditions of Great Britain exploring the life and death of Jesus and his importance to Christians today.</p> <p>Key terms: Nature of God, creation, salvation, the afterlife.</p>	Develop skills of interpretation of biblical text and analyse their importance to Christians today.	Exam style questions including an essay question.