



Beliefs and Ethics Curriculum Overview 2021 –2022

Department Name:	Social Sciences
Department Subject:	Beliefs and Ethics
Head of Social Sciences:	Mrs R Barber
Head of Subject:	Mr J Richardson
Accommodation and Resources:	The Beliefs and Ethics department have a range of textbooks covering all GCSE topics as well as a number of books covering philosophical, religious and ethical topics up to A-Level. The department also has a number of genuine religious artefacts to help pupils engage with the topics they are learning about.
What will students learn in each year?	
Year 7	Term 1 and 2 An Introduction to Beliefs and Ethics Students will explore some of the basic concepts in beliefs and ethics such as what constitutes the difference between a belief and a fact, the nature of reality and what it means to be ethical.
	Term 3 and 4 Festivals Students explore a variety of important religious festivals. Students will focus on how these festivals are celebrated in the UK and around the world
	Term 5 and 6 Is God Real or Not? Students explore a number of different arguments around the existence of God. This includes philosophical and scientific arguments. Students have a chance to debate if religion and science are a compatible fit.
Year 8	Term 1 and 2 Crime and Punishment Students will consider the causes of crime and evaluate the effectiveness of the justice system in the UK and consider religious attitudes to this.

	<p>Term 3 and 4</p> <p>War + Peace</p> <p>Students consider the causes of war, elements of war such as chemical weapons and WMDs. Engage with arguments for and against war and ultimately evaluate if war can ever be just.</p>
	<p>Term 5 and 6</p> <p>Social Justice</p> <p>Students will explore ideas around social justice. Students explore the impact of racism on religious groups and identify different forms of discrimination within our society.</p>
	<p>Term 1</p> <p>Relationships + Families</p> <p>Students will consider different religious views on arranged marriage, LGBTQ+ relationships, abortions. Students will consider if these views are still relevant or if they have become outdated.</p>
	<p>Term 2</p> <p>What is Evil?</p> <p>Students learn about the two types of evils in the world (natural and moral) before focusing on the question of suffering disproving the existence of God.</p>
	<p>Term 3</p> <p>Heroes</p> <p>Students examine people throughout history who are considered to be heroes before focusing on who their own hero actually is.</p>
	<p>Term 4</p> <p>The Self</p> <p>Students consider the philosophical concept of the self. Students consider concepts regarding the nature of reality and the value of a human life.</p>
	<p>Term 5</p> <p>The Holocaust</p> <p>Students will explore the events of the holocaust, what caused it and how it has impacted Judaism in general.</p>
	<p>Term 6</p> <p>The Holocaust</p> <p>Students examine individual stories within the holocaust and consider exactly who the victims of the holocaust are.</p>
Year 10 Core	
	<p>Term 1</p> <p>The Environment</p> <p>Students consider the impact of humanity on the environment and whether it is sustainable.</p>
	<p>Term 2</p> <p>Is Life Special?</p> <p>Students examine arguments around the sanctity of life including abortions and euthanasia.</p>



	<p>Term 3</p> <p>Multiculturalism</p> <p>Students look at how multiculturalism has changed British society.</p>
	<p>Term 4</p> <p>What is Philosophy?</p> <p>Students engage with key philosophical questions around the self, reality and life after death.</p>
	<p>Term 5</p> <p>Religion + Media</p> <p>Students examine the role religion has in media such as in films and newspapers.</p>
	<p>Term 6</p> <p>Religion + Media</p> <p>Students continue to examine the role religion has in media such as in films and newspapers.</p>
Year 9 Option	<p>Term 1</p> <p>What is Philosophy?</p> <p>Students explore the key ideas around philosophy. Considering important questions such as what is reality? And what is good?.</p> <p>Students engage with key moral thinkers such as Jeremy Bentham and Immanuel Kant</p>
	<p>Term 2</p> <p>What is Ethics?</p> <p>Students begin to engage with key philosophical and ethical issues such as the sanctity of life, the environment, animal rights and racism.</p>
	<p>Term 3</p> <p>Religious Beliefs about God</p> <p>Students learn about a range of atheist, monotheist and polytheist beliefs about God. They will also study different arguments for and against the existence of God.</p>
	<p>Term 4</p> <p>Religion and Families</p> <p>Students learn about how religion impacts families around the world including different family types and how being LGBTQ+ can change your relationship with your family.</p>
	<p>Term 5</p> <p>Research Task</p> <p>Students engage in paired research into creating an information resources on a topic of their choosing. This information will also be presented to the class.</p>
	<p>Term 6</p> <p>Revision and Assessment</p> <p>Students engage in revising some of the content they have already learnt over the year. They will also begin to engage with exam work as part of a full assessment.</p>



Year 10 GCSE Philosophy & Ethics	Term 1 Religion and Life Students engage with a number of different beliefs about life and death including euthanasia, the environment, abortion and the existence of an afterlife.
	Term 2 Religion, Peace and Conflict Students explore the causes of war, different arguments around how to conduct war, religious responses to war and Aquinas' Just War Theory
	Term 3 Christianity Beliefs Students learn about Christian beliefs focusing on the Holy Trinity, the resurrection of Jesus and considering if Jesus truly was the Son of God.
	Term 4 Christianity Practice Students explore how Christians put their faith into action exploring prayer, charity and mission.
	Term 5 Human Rights and Social Justice Students explore philosophical arguments around human rights including what makes a person and focus on how marginalised groups are treated such as people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and religious groups.
	Term 6 Crime and Punishment Students explore the causes of crime, the ethics around how to punish criminals, capital punishment, restorative justice and the consequences of criminal action. Students will also be preparing for an end of year assessment.
Year 11 GCSE Philosophy & Ethics	Term 1 Judaism Beliefs Students begin to engage with Judaism focusing on key beliefs such as the nature of God, the role of Abraham and Moses, Olam Ha-Ba and Pikuchu Nefesh.
	Term 2 Judaism Practices Students focus on how Jewish people put their beliefs into practice focusing on prayer, festivals and synagogues.
	Term 3 The Holocaust and Mock Exam Students focus on the Holocaust and how it impacted Judaism. Students also prepare for a mock examination.
	Term 4 Mock Exam Analysis + Revision Using teacher gathered data and student-led feedback from Mock Exams students identify particular areas of weakness to revise from.



	<p>Term 5</p> <p>Revision</p> <p>Continued revision of both student and teacher identified topics and exam skills ahead of GCSE exams.</p>
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