



## Religious Studies Curriculum Overview

### Year 7

Topic Title	Term Taught	Key knowledge/ skills
Introduction to Islam	AUT1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing Islam through the creation story, the life of the Prophet Muhammad, the Five Pillars and the role of Jihad.</li> </ul>
Introduction to Buddhism	AUT2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at the life of the Buddha, the four sights, the eightfold path and how to use stories to explain religious meaning such as 'The tiger and the strawberry.'</li> </ul>
Introduction to Hinduism	SPR1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the role of the gods and goddesses in Hinduism, the story of Hanuman and the importance of the Puja ceremony.</li> </ul>
Introduction to Christianity	SPR2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christianity as viewed through the creation story, the Ten Commandments and the life of Jesus.</li> </ul>
Active worship in Christianity	SUM1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at the Christian festival of Easter, how faith believers view the sacraments and use the Bible to participate actively in their faith.</li> </ul>
Understanding others: a brief introduction to Sikhism and Judaism	SUM2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A summary to explain the similarities and differences between religions and a basic understanding of Judaism and Sikhism to ensure that all students have a basic understanding of all the six major world religions and the importance of tolerance.</li> </ul>

### Year 8

Topic Title	Term Taught	Key knowledge/ skills
Introduction to Judaism	AUT1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing an understanding of how Judaism, Christianity and Islam are linked by being Abrahamic faiths. The rich sources of wisdom found within the Torah and the Friday night Shabbat table.</li> </ul>
The importance of Festivals	AUT2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at four festivals, Purim, Christmas, Hanukkah, Diwali and understanding their importance and effect on belief, community and identity.</li> </ul>
The effect of religious practice on identity	SPR1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is faith? How does faith shape identity? Students will be looking at religious rules, practices and world events such as the Holocaust.</li> </ul>
Coming of age celebrations and their importance	SPR2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of baptism, Bar mitzvah/ Bat mitzvahs and initiation ceremonies to become a</li> </ul>

		Khalsa Sikh. Students will focus on the rituals of religions and how significant they are.
Life and death in Christianity and Islam	SUM1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn about how religion can support faith believers in the beginning and end of life- understanding funeral rites and ideas of the afterlife with a focus on Christianity and Islam.</li> </ul>
Revision of all six world faiths	SUM2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drawing together of information from year 7 and 8 of what it means to be a faith believer in Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism in preparation for year 9.</li> </ul>

## Year 9

Topic Title	Term Taught	Key knowledge/ skills
Crime and Punishment	AUT1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do faith believers think of those who break legal and moral codes? Students will focus using religious scripture on how religion has shaped our legal framework.</li> </ul>
Christianity in depth	AUT2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using the Bible- students will focus on the New Testament teachings of Jesus to explain core elements of Christianity such as the Lord's Prayer, the Apostle's Creed and the Trinity.</li> </ul>
War and Peace	SPR1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will look at historic examples of conflict and the response from faith believers and charities. Using examples from history, students will identify how faith impacts upon actions and morality for faith believers.</li> </ul>
Islam in depth	SPR2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will use scripture from the Qur'an to understand moral and ethical ideas from the position of a Sunni and Shi'a Muslim. By doing so, a more in-depth understanding of Islam will provide students with compassion and tolerance for others.</li> </ul>
Understanding evil and suffering	SUM1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The problem of evil and suffering poses a serious question of faith for religious believers. By investigating the existence of evil and its role in understanding the good, students will focus on particular religious stories such as the story of Job to analyse how it affects belief in God and how teachings can be applied to modern ethical issues.</li> </ul>
GCSE skills and preparation- how to use religious texts and write fluently.	SUM2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During this half term, students will be learning the art of writing for an exam using religious texts and ideas. This will provide all students with a preparation for their GCSE's and develop their religious fluency.</li> </ul>