

**Curriculum Intent**

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) is taught to all students in Years 7-9. We attempt to answer challenging questions about: the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self, the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.

In the Autumn term, students focus on Philosophy. We study Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume and Kant, and evaluate their answers to a variety of philosophical problems. We also learn to philosophise ourselves through discussion, debate, and essay writing. Students are encouraged to think about some of the biggest questions, and are given the tools to go about answering them.

In the Spring term we focus on Religion. We study the history, beliefs and practices of the six major world faiths – Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism – as well as looking at new religions and Humanism. We consider how religious teachings are applied and how beliefs influence people's behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn about and from different religions, while exploring their own beliefs.

In the Summer term we focus on Ethics. We study ethical theories and different interpretations of 'right' and 'wrong'. We evaluate these ideas by applying them to important and relevant situations, and through this we learn to make decisions about our own behaviour. We focus on how we treat others, and how we treat ourselves, by looking at sex and relationships, physical and mental health, and drugs and alcohol.

Students will have to show progress in terms of their knowledge and understanding of these topics, and their ability to analyse and evaluate different ideas. We aim to develop their essay writing, speaking and debating, and independent research skills. While Philosophy, Religion and Ethics are taught in separate modules, there is significant crossover between each area, providing a rounded education and a wide skill-set. We aim to provide students with a broad range of knowledge, the desire to be inquisitive for more, and the skills with which to gain it.

| Yr7 (KS3) | Topic Area                  | Knowledge/Skills that are taught  | Knowledge/Skills revisited  | What does good look like?   | Resources/support at home  |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Autumn    | Philosophy - Reason         | <p>Learning the views of various philosophers on the importance of human reason (including Plato &amp; pre-Socratic philosophers)</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those views</p> <p>Learning how to construct an argument using reason</p>                    | <p>Plato studied at the start of every year</p> <p>Skills gained can be developed towards study of Philosophy A Level</p>               | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain Philosophical ideas</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to criticise different ideas and to reach conclusions about philosophical questions</p> | <p>Discuss the importance reason for making decisions</p>        |
| Spring    | Religion - Abrahamic Faiths | <p>Learning about and from the 3 major Abrahamic Faiths - Judaism, Christianity &amp; Islam</p> <p>Includes history, beliefs, practices</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those beliefs</p>  | <p>Builds on knowledge of world religions from Primary School</p> <p>Skills developed will be used in Year 8 &amp; 9 Religion units</p> | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain different religious beliefs and practices</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of various beliefs</p>                   | <p>Discuss religious beliefs</p> <p>Visit a place of worship</p> |
| Summer    | Ethics - Society            | <p>Learning the views of various philosophers on the importance of Society (including Hobbes, Locke &amp; Rousseau)</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those views</p> <p>Developing well supported personal views on the importance and structure of society</p> | <p>Using skills gained in Term 1</p> <p>Skills gained can be developed towards study of Politics A Level</p>                            | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain Philosophical ideas</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to criticise different ideas and to reach conclusions about philosophical questions</p> | <p>Discuss political views and current affairs</p>               |

| Yr8 (KS3) | Topic Area                   | Knowledge/Skills that are taught  | Knowledge/Skills revisited  | What does good look like?   | Resources/support at home  |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Autumn    | Philosophy - Purpose         | <p>Learning the views of various philosophers on the importance of the purpose of life (including Plato &amp; the Torah/Bible/Quran)</p> <p>Learning the views of various philosophers on the existence of Free Will (Libertarianism, Determinism and compatibilism; including the Buddha, the Torah/Bible/Quran, JS Mill)</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those views</p> <p>Developing well supported personal views on life's purpose &amp; free will</p> <p>Practicing restraint and control of our own will</p> | <p>Plato studied at the start of every year.</p> <p>Revisit the power and use of Reason (from yr7)</p> <p>Combines knowledge and skills from all previous Philosophy units, as well as content from Year 7 unit on Abrahamic Faiths</p> <p>Skills gained can be developed towards study of Philosophy A Level</p> | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain Philosophical ideas</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to criticise different ideas and to reach conclusions about philosophical questions</p> | <p>Discuss the purpose of life</p> <p>Discuss views on free will</p> |
| Spring    | Religion - Eastern Religions | <p>Learning about and from the 3 major Eastern Religions - Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism</p> <p>Includes history, beliefs, practices</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those beliefs</p>  | <p>Builds on knowledge of world religions from Year 7</p> <p>Links to previous topic - the Buddha</p> <p>Comparison assessment uses the same criteria as Year 7</p>   | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain different religious beliefs and practices</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of various beliefs</p>                   | <p>Discuss religious beliefs</p> <p>Visit a place of worship</p>     |
| Summer    | Ethics - Love & Charity      | <p>Learning about how religious beliefs about Love are applied, with particular focus on Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism &amp; Sikhism</p>   | <p>Links to Year 7 8 and 9 Ethics units</p> <p>Uses and applies ideas from</p>  | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain different types of charity</p>   | <p>Discuss religious beliefs</p> <p>Visit a place of</p>             |

|           |                                | <p>Learn and evaluate different religious and secular attitudes to charity (including Sikhisms, Islam and Christianity)</p> <p>Consider different ethical views on charity (including utilitarianism and deontological views)</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating the application of beliefs</p>  | <p>Year 7 Religion Units</p> <p>Builds on Year 7 &amp; 8 knowledge of applied religious beliefs</p>   | <p>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of charity</p> <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain different religious beliefs and practices</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of various beliefs</p> | <p>worship</p> <p>Discuss charity, encourage students to engage with a charitable organisation</p> |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Yr9 (KS3) | Topic Area                     | Knowledge/Skills that are taught   | Knowledge/Skills revisited  | What does good look like?  | Resources/support at home  |
| Autumn    | Philosophy - Critical Thinking | <p>Learning the views of various philosophers on the existence of how to think critically, using reason, and on the importance of truth (including Plato &amp; Descartes)</p> <p>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those views</p> <p>Developing well supported personal views</p> <p>Practicing critical thinking by evaluating the truth of various sources (Fake News homework)</p> | <p>Plato studied at the start of every year</p> <p>Revisit Reason (from yr7) and Purpose (from yr8)</p> <p>Skills gained can be developed towards study of Philosophy A Level</p> | <p>Knowledge &amp; Understanding - Being able to explain Philosophical ideas</p> <p>Evaluation - Being able to criticise different ideas and to reach conclusions about philosophical questions</p>  | Discuss the trustworthiness of sources of information  |
| Spring    | Religion - Humanism & New      | Learning about and from Humanism and New Religious Movements,  | Builds on knowledge of world religions from Year 7 & 8  | Knowledge & Understanding - Being able to explain different  | Discuss religious beliefs  |

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|        | Religions                    | including Mormonism, Rastafarianism, Scientology and Cults.<br><br>Includes history, beliefs, practices<br><br>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those beliefs   | Comparison assessment uses the same criteria as Year 7 & 8   | religious beliefs and practices<br><br>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of various beliefs   | Visit a place of worship   |
| Summer | Ethics - Morality & Ideology | Learning about how religious beliefs about Morality are applied, with particular focus on Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism & Sikhism<br><br>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating the application of beliefs<br><br>Learning the views of various philosophers on the state of nature and political ideology (including Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau)<br><br>Learning different ideologies - Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Feminism and Anarchism<br><br>Comparing, Analysing and Evaluating those views<br><br>Developing well supported personal political views | Uses knowledge of world religions from yr7, 8 and 9 and links to the next topic in Ethics<br><br>Builds on knowledge gained in Year 7 Society unit<br><br>Skills gained can be developed towards study of Politics A Level | Knowledge & Understanding - Being able to explain different religious beliefs and practices<br><br>Evaluation - Being able to assess the importance of various beliefs<br><br>Knowledge & Understanding - Being able to explain Philosophical ideas<br><br>Evaluation - Being able to criticise different ideas and to reach conclusions about philosophical questions | Discuss religious beliefs<br><br>Visit a place of worship<br><br>Discuss political views and current affairs |