KS3 Religious Studies

Team Leader: Mr Barnes
Teachers: Mr Kayser, Ms Elliot

Aim

We aim to provide a distinct, varied, relevant, modern approach to Religious Studies, which reflects the multicultural and diverse community of students at Parliament Hill School. Our lessons are planned within the framework of our feminist mission statement: our students leave KS3 Religious Studies as inclusive global citizens, supported by our rigorous approach to teaching world religions. Our lessons are structured around enquiry questions which encourage critical analysis and respectful debate.

We aim to foster students' ability to work independently and collaboratively, where they reflect on the ideas and beliefs of others and are challenged to consider their own. We are proud to deliver a curriculum that studies the origins of a wide range of faiths and helps students to analyse the place of religion in the 21st Century.

We aim to provide a platform for investigation and debate of philosophical and ethical issues from the very start of Year 7 until the last day of Year 9. Whether devoutly religious, a staunch atheist or anywhere in-between, the RE classroom at Parliament Hill provides a place for students to develop their own ideas and beliefs, whilst understanding different cultures, religions, histories, experiences, identities, beliefs and moral codes of others.

Ks3 English	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Lessons per two week cycle	2 lessons	2 lessons	2 lessons
Assessment	• Extended writing tasks • Quizzes • Sponge Tests • Debate and Evaluation writing tasks	• Extended writing tasks • Quizzes • Sponge Tests • Debate and Evaluation writing tasks • Creative Writing	• Extended writing tasks • Quizzes • Sponge Tests • Debate and Evaluation writing tasks • GCSE Exam Style questions
Home learning	Students will receive one Mid-Term assessment every half term. These assessments are to be completed on Teams. These assessments aim at reinforcing and developing knowledge gained in lessons, as well as developing skills, knowledge and understanding towards future learning. Beyond this, students may be set additional homework assignments at the discretion of their class teacher. These tasks will include but are not limited to: • Flipped learning tasks • Current Affairs: Research and Relevance tasks		

	• Deeper Meaning tasks: Extended writing, poetry, artistic tasks, all used to show understanding of symbolism / deeper meaning • Exam style questions / online quizzes • Home Learning Projects
Remote learning	If a student is working from home their teacher will share the resources for each lesson, which have been adapted to support independent learning.

How to support your child -- opportunities for enrichment and useful resources

Apart from helping your child to organise their work by encouraging them to do home learning tasks as soon as they gets them, the most helpful way to support your child is to encourage them to discuss their work with them. So much of what our students study during Key Stage 3 RE involves debate and discussion over different ethical views and beliefs. Having discussions with your child about these talks, explaining your own ideas, listening to them about their own ideas and their reflections on what they have learned about their peers' beliefs is invaluable.

Encourage them to:

- Read regularly.
- Read appropriate newspapers, watch the news or follow the news online
- Watch suitable film or television that broadens their understanding of beliefs and experiences of people of different ethnicities, religions, belief systems and experiences.
- Share their ideas and beliefs with you.
- Use the PowerPoint presentations on Teams to address particular areas

Useful Resources

Students can borrow books from the RE Department on a wide spectrum of topics.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt
https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/christianity-beliefs-and-teachings-d14f

In Year 7 we focus on how encouraging students to explain, understand and justify their own religious and ethical beliefs while being challenged to understand views different to their own. We also look to give them historical context of religions and the chance to consider the place of religion in today's world.

Year 7	**Scheme of Learning**	Brief description of content (All lessons and resources are available to students on Microsoft Teams by going to the area for their RE class and looking in 'Class Materials'.
Autumn term	HT1 The Existence of God	A study of the different beliefs about God from across the world and the arguments for and against the existence of God. Including: • Different beliefs about God • Teleological and Cosmological Arguments • The Problem of Evil • Explaining and justifying your own beliefs
	HT2 – Amazing Experiences	An examination of incredible experiences that lead us to question if there is a part of human beings that is beyond the physical and maybe exists after death. Including: • Supernatural Experiences • Near Death Experiences • Miracles • Conversion Experiences • The Conscience
Spring term	HT3 – Judaism: Origins	The beginnings of Judaism and the key figures in its history, including the covenants made between God and Abraham and Moses, as well as the significance of Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. Including: • Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael • Moses, the Exodus and the 10 Commandments • The Matriarchs
	HT4 –Identity and Challenging Prejudice	Students will examine issues related to prejudice and racism, examining why prejudice exists and how racism can be overcome. Including: • The experiences of the Holocaust • Where does prejudice come from? • 21st Century issues
Summer term	HT5 – Revision and Reflections	To prepare for the end of year exam, students will carry out a range of revision and exam technique activities in order to reflect on their development and learning so far in Year 7.
	HT6 – Buddhism: Origins, Beliefs and Practices	Students learn about the origins of Buddhism the core teachings of Siddhartha Gautama and way in which Buddhist practices, such as meditation, are used by non-Buddhists today. Including: • The life of Siddhartha Gautama • Enlightenment • The Eightfold Path, the Four Noble Truths • Meditation and Worship

In Year 8 students develop deeper knowledge and understanding of the world's two largest religions, including their history, teachings, practices and what it is to live by these creeds in 21st Century London. They will also study people who were influenced by their beliefs to make the world a better place and to consider their own actions and beliefs and how they can affect positive change.

Year 8	**Scheme of Learning unit**	Brief description of content (All lessons and resources are available to students on Microsoft Teams by going to the area for their RE class and looking in 'Class Materials'.
Autumn term	HT1 – Christianity: Origins	An introduction to the start of Christianity, the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the implications for Christians. Including: • Jesus' birth • Jesus' treatment of others • Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and resurrection
	HT2 – Christianity: Moral Teachings	Students will analyse the key teachings from within Christianity through the study of parables and Jesus' examples. Students will evaluate the use of these teachings in the modern world. Including: • The Prodigal Son • The Good Samaritan • The case of Maximillian Kolbe
Spring term	HT3 – Islam: Origins	An exploration of the foundation of the religion of Islam, the religion's key beliefs and practices and the life of the Prophet Muhammad. Including: • The life of the Prophet Muhammad • The Night of Power • The Five Pillars of Islam
	HT4 – Islam: 21st Century London	An examination of the growth of Islam and the way in which its traditional teachings can be followed in modern, British culture. Including: • Halal and Haram: Food and Drink • Alcohol and Drugs • Clothing and Relationships
Summer term	HT5 – Hinduism: Key Beliefs and Practices	An examination of the religious, symbolic and cultural aspects of Hinduism, including the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi. • Brahman and The Trimurti • The role of Deities and Avatars • Worship • The life of Mahatma Gandhi
	HT 6 – Leaders and Role Models	Investigation of some of the people who have acted upon their beliefs to affect change in different ways. Including: • Malala Yousafzai • Sophie Scholl • Malcolm X • Sir Nicholas Winton

In Year 9 students will develop evaluative, analytical and critical skills. They will cover a number of topics that require them to consider ethical dilemmas and moral issues, whereby they need to develop the ability to justify their own points of view whilst maintaining an open mind, being able to understand and challenge different perspectives. They will begin to be challenged more in their extended writing in order to prepare them for GCSE.

Year 9	**Scheme of Learning unit**	Brief description of content (All lessons and resources are available to students on Microsoft Teams by going to the area for their RE class and looking in 'Class Materials'.
Autumn term	HT1 – Crime and Punishment	Students will study ethical issues related to crime and punishment in the UK. Including: • The origins of criminal behaviour • What should prisons be like? • Capital Punishment
	HT2 – Conflict and Coexistence	Religious history, including areas of conflict, as well as groups and individuals who have looked to bridge the divide between ideologies and encourage coexistence. Including: • Jerusalem: Judaism, Christianity and Islam • Stories of Coexistence • Would the world be better without religion?
Spring term	HT3 – 'The Other Religions'	Students will explore religions beyond the largest most well-known ones, discovering fascinating and varied traditions and beliefs and evaluating what a 'religion' is. Including: • Scientology • Rastafarianism • Jehovah's Witnesses • Humanism
	HT4 – Feminist Theology	An exploration of the influence of religion on women and of women on religion and the changing relationship between religions and women in the 21st Century. • Where did the Goddesses go? • The influence of Eve. • Women and Religion in the 21st Century
Summer term	HT5 – Human Rights and Freedoms	Students will study ethical issues related to human rights, equality and the responsibilities that come with the freedom of expression, as well as the ever changing development of rights and their potential conflict with traditional religious beliefs. Including: • Religion and the Media • Freedom of Speech and Expression • "You're not allowed to criticise my religion." • The fight for Human Rights