



OVERVIEW

In accordance with the new KS3 United Learning Curriculum for RS it is compulsory that Islam and the Philosophy of Religion are taught in Y8. Studying Islam ensures that students have completed a faith study in the Abrahamic Faiths. This helps students understand some of the core beliefs of many people in the world. Studying Philosophy of Religion as well as Atheism exposes students to an environment where they will gain knowledge and understanding from a range of different perspectives and beliefs surrounding the question of the existence of God. Understanding a range of opinions and perspectives on such questions will lead to an increase in tolerance, acceptance and respect for the local and wider community. This is in line with the British values and the right to practice whichever religion we choose without discrimination.

- Atheism**
- Topics covered within the Y8 Atheism module:**
- 1- Where did Atheism come from?
 - 2- Plato's Cave
 - 3- Challenging the Bible
 - 4- The Enlightenment
 - 5- Evolution
 - 6- Without God, Everything is Permitted

Assessment:

The 'Big Write' question that students will be asked is: "There's no point believing in God anymore." Evaluate this statement considering different points of view.

- Philosophy of Religion**
- Topics covered within the Y8 Philosophy of Religion module:**
- 1- Who is God?
 - 2- Theism, Atheism and Agnosticism
 - 3- The Design Argument and Criticisms
 - 4- Criticisms of the Design Argument
 - 5- The Cosmological Argument
 - 6- Criticisms of the Cosmological Argument
 - 7- The Problem of Evil
 - 8- Theodicies
 - 9- Religious Experience and Criticisms

Assessment:

The 'Big Write' question that students will be asked is: 'The God of Classical Theism must exist.' Evaluate this statement considering different points of view.

- Islam**
- Topics covered within the Y8 Islam module:**
- 1- Pre-Islamic Arabia
 - 2- Prophet Muhammad and the Qur'an
 - 3- Prophet Muhammad – The Hijrah and Conquest of Mecca
 - 4- The Final Sermon
 - 5- Sunni Shia Split
 - 6- Islamic Caliphates
 - 7- The Five Pillars
 - 8- Hajj
 - 9- Jihad

Assessment:

The 'Big Write' question that students will be asked is: 'Hajj is the most significant aspect of being a Muslim.' Evaluate this statement considering different points of view.

- Useful resources for supporting your child at home:**
- Y8 RS Knowledge Organiser
 - Seneca Learning
 - BBC Bitesize / BBC Teach Videos - KS3 Religious Studies
 - Oak National Academy- KS3 Religious Studies
 - Enrichment days