

Religious Education Department - Overview of Study

KS3

In Key Stage 3, the boys study 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' course which supports the Catholic Curriculum and ethos. Each year group has a dedicated textbook that builds the students' knowledge and supports their beliefs and spirituality year on year. All pupils are assessed once per term usually by way of written assessment. A lot of the studies done in KS3 directly supports work done for GCSE in KS4.

Y7 – The Way

Autumn I - **Revelation and Faith**. Examines God's plan for humankind and how he developed his relationship through Abraham, David and Solomon.

Autumn II – **God's Promises Fulfilled**. An overview of the Old Testament stories of Exile, Exodus, prophecies of Jesus' coming and Jesus birth.

Spring I – **The Saviour**. Examines the compassionate nature of Jesus with a focus on some modern day examples of those who have themselves been called to follow Jesus' example

Spring II – **The Church**. Students study the events following Jesus' death and resurrection and how Christianity begins to spread beyond Judea.

Summer I – **The Sacraments**. An introduction to the Sacraments with a focus on Baptism, Reconciliation and the Sick.

Summer II – **Christianity and Other Faiths**. A return to our studies on the beginnings of Christianity following Jesus death and how it became a separate religion to Judaism. A general overview of the major world religions. **Buddhism. Sikhism.**

PSHE in Year 7 – John Paul II Foundation for Sports (JP2F4S). Responsibility, Worthiness, Curiosity. Intro to Money Management. Honesty. Simple Bank Statements. Ambition. Self-Awareness.

Y8 – The Truth

Autumn I – **Creation**. A study of the story of Creation in Genesis, its theological truths and our first philosophical discussion in relation to modern scientific views, theories and evidence.

Autumn II – **The Covenant**. An in-depth study of God's covenants with humankind with its main focus on Moses, the Passover and the Exodus. **Hinduism** is also studied this half term.

Spring I – **Mystery of the Eucharist**. A detailed study of the Eucharist both in relation to The Last Supper and The Eucharist today.

Spring II – **The Paschal Mystery**. A thorough analysis of the last week of Jesus' life that requires the students to examine the motives of those involved.

Summer I – **Mission of the Church**. Requires the students to reflect on what challenges are faced by both the Church and them as Christians.

Summer II – **The Church in Britain**. Studies Christianity in Britain from its arrival shortly after Jesus’ death up to The Reformation in Britain. **Islam** is also studied this half term.

PSHE in Year 8 – John Paul II Foundation for Sports (JP2F4S). History of Money. Mobile Contracts. Recycling. Moral Courage. British Justice System. Perseverance. Zest. Pensions.

Y9 – The Life

Autumn I – **Spiritual Quest**. Focuses on our relationship with God through a study of The Trinity, the problem of suffering and death, judgement, Heaven and Hell.

Autumn II – **The Gospels**. A study of the four Gospels from a historical, spiritual and theological perspective.

Spring I – **Life in the Spirit**. A further examination of our relationship with God building on previous studies with a focus on young people with the Church and the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Spring II – **God’s Call**. Through a study of vocation, with emphasis on the Sacraments of Marriage and Holy Orders, students reflect on how God calls us all as individuals.

PSHE in Year 9 – Political Engagement. Bank Accounts. GCSE Study Skills and Extended Essay Writing. Fake News in Media. Body Image.

All students in Year 9 start the GCSE RE course after Easter to give them a good start and ensure that there is enough time to cover the course content and leave time for revision and practicing exam questions throughout the course as well as at the end.

GCSE Component 3: Judaism: Beliefs and Teachings; Judaism: Practices

Summer Term I – **Judaism: Beliefs and Teachings**. Following an introduction, we examine the nature of God, the Messiah, covenant, life on earth and the afterlife.

Summer term II – **Judaism: Practices**. Examines worship, the synagogue, rituals and festivals. Revision and Year 9 Exam.

KS4

All boys in the school study RE to GCSE and sit three exams at the end of Y11. The course is comprised of three separate components. Component 3: Judaism is covered in Year 9, Component 1: Origins and Meaning and Good and Evil is covered in Year 10 and Component 2: Life and Death and Sin and Forgiveness are covered in Year 11. All students are assessed each term either by classroom assessment based on part of an exam paper or a full exam paper as part of the grade indicator exams.

Y10 – GCSE Component 1: Origins and Meaning; Good and Evil

Autumn I – **Origins and Meaning**. Examines Catholic beliefs about the origins and meaning of life, the sanctity of life and creation.

Autumn II – **Origins and Meaning.** Examines the Bible, painting and expressing beliefs through art, symbolism and loving and serving in Catholic communities.

Spring I – **Good and Evil.** Examines good, evil and suffering, the Trinity, incarnation and Jesus and moral authority.

Spring II – **Good and Evil.** Examines sculpture and statuary, popular devotion as practices in Catholic communities in Britain and elsewhere.

Summer Term I – **Life and Death.** Examines death and the afterlife, Catholic beliefs about life after death and beliefs about eschatology (heaven, purgatory and hell) and resurrection.

Summer term II – **Revision and Year 10 exam.** Evaluation, Feedback, Intervention and Improvement

Y11 – GCSE Component 2: Life and Death; Sin and Forgiveness
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Autumn I – **Life and Death.** Examines the magisterium, artefacts, music and the funeral rite and prayer within Catholic communities.

Autumn II – **Sin and Forgiveness.** Examines crime and punishment, redemption and the Church.

Spring I – **Sin and Forgiveness.** Examines church buildings, the sacraments, mission and evangelisation

Spring II – **Revision**

Summer term I – **Revision and three GCSE RE Examinations**

Religious Education Department

Aims – The Religious Education and Chaplaincy Department’s Mission is a unique one. Our aim is to facilitate the pupils on a fourfold journey. Hence we combine the academic, the spiritual, the ethical and the philosophical. The process utilises the unique relationship between school, home, parish and the worldwide community of the Church. Through our RE lessons and Home Learning Projects, pupils are inspired by new knowledge, excited by faith and challenged to become critical thinkers. They will develop their skills in being open-minded and developing empathy which is much needed in our very multicultural society. Pupils are challenged to reflect and find their own views in an all-inclusive and supportive environment.

Inclusion – Resources are differentiated as much as possible for the varying needs of students. The RE department has high expectations for all pupils. We seek to stretch the more able but to challenge the less able also with all encouraged to develop a growth mindset. Appropriate assessments are essential to setting realistic and ambitious targets which will enable all pupils to fulfil their true potential. As such, we take account of all issues in relation to equality of opportunity, thus ensuring that there are no barriers to pupil achievement. The SEN Code of Practice is fully adhered to so that all pupils can gain full and equal advantage of every opportunity afforded through studies in RE.

Language and Literacy – Many of the skills used in RE are similar to those used in English, reading, writing, comprehension, oral expression etc. Hence RE is aligned with English across academic groups. By reading biblical texts and stories that are often already familiar to them, students are often able to engage more readily with literacy tasks. All are encouraged to read out loud in the class and participate in

individual, small and large group work. Use of biblical texts, different views in the textbooks and other sources as well as learned skills of theological analysis and evaluation are used to develop high level literacy in our students.

Numeracy and Mathematics – Although numeracy might seem limited mainly to chronological analysis and quantitative work, mathematical skills are used extensively in the planning and creation of tables, charts and diagrams. There are numeracy related tasks inserted into quite a number of lessons such as calculating the percentage of adherents to different faiths in the UK. As part of the PSHE strand, the RE department also takes the lead on financial education and while the Maths department deliver ‘Financial Maths’, numeracy skills are used extensively throughout the Money Management lessons.

PSHE – The RE department fulfils the government’s requirement that ‘all schools should make provision for PSHE, drawing on good practice’. We provide Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education because we believe that focusing on the development of the personal, emotional, health and wellbeing of all our children is vital. We prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life as future citizens in an ever-changing world. We also ensure that British values are consistently taught and emphasised in practice. Most of our PSHE in KS3 is delivered through the exciting John Paul II Foundation for Sports (JP2F4S) programme which focuses on a wide range of values and virtues that need to be developed in pupils.

Spiritual: Explore beliefs and experience; respect values; discover oneself and the surrounding world;
use imagination and creativity; reflect.

Moral: Recognise right and wrong; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

Social: Use social skills in different contexts; work well with others; resolve conflicts; understand how communities work.

Cultural: Appreciate cultural influences; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Educational Visits – To support their studies and make much of what is learned come to life, in collaboration with the Chaplaincy, we arrange exciting educational visits for our boys to a number of places of educational interest. This includes Rome, Lourdes in France, St Vincent’s Catholic Youth Centre in Whitstable, Catford & Bromley United Synagogue and Kidzania.

Examinations – All pupils study WJEC EDUQAS GCSE from the end of Year 9, through Years 10 and 11. Key stage 3 is spiral scheme which introduces and supports most aspects of the GCSE they will take at the end of KS4. Their exams take place when they are in Year 11 and they take three papers, usually in May. The first exam paper is Component 1 Foundational Catholic Theology (Origins and Meaning along with Good and Evil). The second exam paper is Component 2 Applied Catholic Theology (Life and Death along with Sin and Forgiveness). The third exam paper is Component 3 Judaism (Beliefs and Teaching along with Practices).