

Key stage 4 curriculum overview.

Topics

Year 10	Year 11
What does it mean to belong to a community?	Can fact and faith co-exist?
Are our thoughts and beliefs our own?	How do religions put their beliefs into practice?
What is a 'moral' world?	How 'free' is our freedom of expression?

	Week	Year 10	Year 11
Term 1	1		How do we decide if something is true?
	2		Is there a single truth that applies to everyone?
	3		How do people decide whether a sacred text is meant to be taken literally or figuratively?
	4		What issues can arise when using sacred texts to modern day issues?
	5		How do our experiences shape our understanding of truth?
	6		Do you think that there are experiences that cannot be explained?
	7		What about miracles? Can miracles be explained?
Term 2	1	What does it mean to belong to a community?	
	2	In what ways does belonging to a community create a sense of belonging? How does it support the community?	
	3	What could be the disadvantages and advantages of belonging to a community?	
	4	What are the advantages/disadvantages of belonging to an exclusive group, closed community? Focus on Amish community. Who are the Amish community?	
	5	What are the advantages/disadvantages of belonging to an exclusive group, closed community? Focus on Amish community. Who are the Amish community?	
	6	What could be the implications of trying to leave a religious community like the Amish?	
	7	How do religious beliefs define a person's identity? Is it important to have an identity?	

Term 3	1		Is religious experience an essential part of belonging to a religion?
	2		What is religious expression?
	3		Which major festivals and holy days are observed in the community? Looking at examples of festivals. How do they bring the community together?
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	5		How does wearing certain clothes and symbols reflect their belief? Looking at examples of religious clothing/symbols.
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Term 4	1	Who are the key influences for young people? Books/films/songs/teachers/parents etc.	
	2	How might religious beliefs affect everyday life?	
	3	How might major events e.g. Loss of loved ones or personal achievement affect beliefs.	
	4	Do you believe in free speech? Should this have limits?	
	5	How far does social media influence belief? Should social media be censored? Would this limit our freedom of speech?	
	6	In what ways do you think engaging in dialogue with different beliefs be beneficial?	
Term 5	1		Should we limit freedom of expression? E.g. wearing of the Hijab, preaching on streets, wearing a cross/crucifix.
	2		What does the law say about religious expression?
	3		Are some expressions more acceptable than others? E.g. if someone joined a group known to be racist is this acceptable?
	4		Why might some symbols be offensive to some groups? E.g. Swastika in Hinduism a symbol of peace, historically seen as a symbol of Nazism.
	5		Does the law limit peoples religious freedom/expression? Refer to examples such as France banning of the hijab. What impact does this have? Positive/Negative?
	6		How far should schools/workplaces accommodate religious beliefs?

Term 6	1	What do we mean by values? What values do you consider important in life?	
	2	How do religious/spiritual beliefs inform peoples sense of right or wrong? E.g. 10 commandments, belief in punishment in the afterlife, Jesus teachings.	
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	4	Are there any religious values you admire or try to follow? Which ones? Why?	
	5	Do we need religious beliefs to know what is right and wrong? Humanism.	
	6	How do we create a more inclusive school community? British values.	
	7	Why is it important to be tolerant of people's beliefs? "I don't agree with your beliefs, but I respect your right to have them"	