

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2018-19



## Religious Education Years 7-13

Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment



## Religious Education at The Buckingham School

The Buckingham School follows the Buckinghamshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, Challenging RE. For Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, this is delivered through a weekly tutorial during form time. These tutorials allow students to explore different religious beliefs (Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and Buddhism) as well as non-religious views. Students are then able to discuss these ideas and share their own thoughts and opinions. For Key Stage 5, students are required to cover at least 5 hours of RE over the course of the year and this is delivered during form time through the use of Ted Talks, which are designed to promote discussion and debate.

### At Key Stage 3, students follow the below framework:

<b>KS3 Framework: Engaging with ultimate questions arising out of experience</b>			
<b>Concepts</b>	<b>Enquiring into and explaining religious belief and practice and non-religious views</b>	<b>Exploring and analysing different responses and arguments</b>	<b>Reflecting on and evaluating the significance of belief in the modern world</b>
<b><u>God</u></b> <b>Does belief in 'God' make sense?</b>	What do the religions say about the nature and existence of 'God'? How are they similar to and different from each other and how do they differ within the religions? What are atheism and agnosticism?	If there is no form of divine power ('God'), how can we make sense of life?	Would the world be a better place if there were no belief in 'God'? Would the world be a better place if everyone believed the same?
<b><u>Truth</u></b> <b>What is 'Truth'?</b>	In what sense can religious books and stories be 'true'? What evidence is there for the truth of religious beliefs?	What does 'truth' mean in maths, science, literature, arts, history, philosophy, ethics and religion? Is there just one form of 'Truth'? How do we decide what is 'true'?	Is factual truth all we need? Is it possible or desirable for everyone to believe the same truth in the same way?
<b><u>Identity and Spirituality</u></b> <b>What does it mean to be human?</b>	What do some religions teach about being human? What do they teach about what happens when we die? What do atheists believe?	Is there more to life than just the material and physical? Does life have meaning, purpose and value? How are humans different from and similar to other animals?	Why is our sense of identity important? What makes me, me, you, you and us human?
<b><u>Religion and Science</u></b> <b>Does science prove religion is wrong?</b>	What do religions teach about the existence of the universe and the origins of life? What do scientists say?	Does it have to be religion v science? Why do some religious believers and some scientists disagree so vehemently? What about religious scientists: how can they accept religious beliefs and scientific theories?	Do we have to have a sense of meaning and purpose? Why is there something rather than nothing?

<p><b><u>Ethics</u></b>  <b>How do we decide what is right and wrong?</b></p>	<p>What do the religions teach about how we should live?          What non-religious views are there?</p>	<p>Are all beliefs and theories about right and wrong equally valid?</p>	<p>If everyone just obeyed the law wouldn't the world be a better place?</p>
<p><b><u>Worship</u></b>  <b>Do worship and prayer serve any purpose?</b></p>	<p>What does worship tell us about people's beliefs and attitudes?          (Explore examples from rites of passage, prayer, festivals, pilgrimage, congregational services and private devotions.)</p>	<p>What, if anything, is the point of worship?</p>	<p>How does religious worship compare to modern celebrity culture in terms of values and positive living?</p>
<p><b><u>Good and Evil</u></b>  <b>Why is there evil and suffering?</b></p>	<p>What do the religions and beliefs teach about evil and suffering?</p>	<p>How can people believe in 'God' in the face of evil and suffering?</p>	<p>What if there were no evil and suffering? Would a perfect world be desirable or possible?</p>
<p><b><u>Rights, responsibilities and justice</u></b>  <b>How can we create a just and fair world?</b></p>	<p>What do the religions teach about how we should treat other people?          What are human rights and where do they come from?</p>	<p>Why should we be concerned about creating a fairer world and greater equality?</p>	<p>Where do our values come from?          Is it possible to create a fair and just world?</p>
<p><b><u>Global issues</u></b>  <b>What responsibility do we have for the world around us?</b></p>	<p>What do the religious teachings say about our responsibility for the world?          What about non-religious views?          What causes environmental problems?</p>	<p>What gets in the way of people living up to their beliefs and ideals about environmental conservation and responsibility?</p>	<p>Do religious beliefs and other worldviews really make any difference to how we treat the natural world?</p>
<p><b><u>Interfaith dialogue</u></b>  <b>One Truth or many?</b></p>	<p>What do the religions teach about living with people who have different beliefs and practices?</p>	<p>Why do religious beliefs seem to divide people more than bring them together?</p>	<p>How can all Sacred Texts be 'true'?          How can different faiths with different truth-claims work together?</p>
<p><b><u>Religion</u></b>  <b>Is religion still relevant?</b></p>	<p>Why are some people religious?          Do we need religion to make sense of the world?</p>	<p>Many people think that religion seems to cause so much war, suffering and intolerance; what do you think?</p>	<p>How far is religion a positive or negative influence in the world?          Would the world be a better place without religion?</p>

**At Key Stage 4, students follow the framework below:**

<b>How does religion influence individuals and communities?</b>		
<p><b>Religion and the family</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religion in the home;</li> <li>• Birth ceremonies;</li> <li>• The role of the family;</li> <li>• Family relationships and responsibilities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion in the community</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belief and custom;</li> <li>• Diversity;</li> <li>• Conflict and harmony;</li> <li>• Leaders and community centres.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and the individual</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal faith and belief;</li> <li>• Expressing the faith;</li> <li>• Living the faith;</li> <li>• Commitment to faith.</li> </ul>

<b>How do religions respond to ultimate questions of identity, meaning, purpose and value? (including spirituality)</b>		
<p><b>Religion and moral values</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absolute and relative morality moral;</li> <li>• Authority;</li> <li>• Good and evil;</li> <li>• The problems of evil and suffering.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and identity</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origins of life;</li> <li>• Sanctity of life;</li> <li>• What does it mean to be human;</li> <li>• Death and beyond.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and the world</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origins of the universe;</li> <li>• The existence of God;</li> <li>• The nature of God;</li> <li>• Knowledge, belief and faith.</li> </ul>

<b>What do religions have to say about moral issues?</b>		
<p><b>Religion and life issues</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical ethics;</li> <li>• The right to die;</li> <li>• Animal rights;</li> <li>• Capital punishment.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and relationships</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sex and relationships;</li> <li>• Marriage, partnership and commitment;</li> <li>• Problems and separation;</li> <li>• Prejudice and discrimination.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and global issues</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human rights;</li> <li>• Environment;</li> <li>• Poverty;</li> <li>• War and violence.</li> </ul>

**At Key Stage 5, examples of the topics covered are below:**

<b>Religion, belief and philosophy</b>		
<p><b>Religion and the existence of God</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we prove the existence of God?;</li> <li>• Can we prove there is no God?;</li> <li>• God and evil;</li> <li>• Religion and science.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and knowledge</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belief and knowledge;</li> <li>• Faith and reason;</li> <li>• Religious experience;</li> <li>• Religion and language.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and knowledge</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belief and knowledge;</li> <li>• Faith and reason;</li> <li>• Religious experience;</li> <li>• Religion and language.</li> </ul>

<b>Religion, belief and ethics</b>		
<p><b>Religion and ethical questions</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absolute and relative values;</li> <li>• Religious and secular ethical theories.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and medical ethics</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genetics;</li> <li>• Euthanasia.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Religion and ethical issues</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environment;</li> <li>• Sex and sexuality;</li> <li>• The developing world.</li> </ul>

<b>Religion, belief and community</b>		
<p><b>Religion around us</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious communities in Buckinghamshire: a study of Quakerism;</li> <li>• Different forms of Christianity and/or Islam;</li> <li>• Religion in Britain;</li> <li>• Religion in the arts;</li> <li>• Religion and gender issues;</li> <li>• Religion in the media.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Religion in the world</b></p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religion in a changing world;</li> <li>• Religion and politics;</li> <li>• Religious conflicts;</li> <li>• Religion in history.</li> </ul>