

Our Year 8 Religious Studies & Citizenship Curriculum

We aim to develop students as citizens who:

- Engage with and debate philosophical & ultimate questions, and ethical issues
- Are inclusive, accepting & empathetic, and can challenge the views of others in a respectful manner
- Are equipped with the knowledge & skills to keep themselves safe and well as they navigate adolescence

Big Ideas in Year 8 RS & CZ:

God's Existence, Conflict & compatibility between Religion & Science, Relationships & Sex, Physical and Emotional Wellbeing, Discrimination, Digital Literacy

Last year we learned about....

The Abrahamic Religions; Judaism, Christianity & Islam. Relationships & wellbeing through The Illustrated Mum, Growing up & staying safe, Nutrition, Emotional & mental wellbeing, Building relationships, Financial decision making.

Next year we will learn about...

- Marriage & Family Life
- Life After Death
- Medical Ethics
- Peer influence & assertiveness: how to manage risk in relation to gangs, knife crime and crime
- RSE & Health & Wellbeing through the education drama 'Being Victor'

	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
Topic	Does God Exist?	Can religion & Science Work together?	A Life for a Life	Physical & Emotional Wellbeing	Relationships & Sex education	1. Discrimination 2. Digital Literacy
Key Questions	First Cause Argument? Paley's Design Argument? What is the problem of evil & theodicy? Atheist Arguments	What is truth? What are creation myths? What does the Bible say about creation? What does science say about creation? Can you be a scientist and religious? Is the Earth sacred? Do religious people have a greater responsibility	Why do we punish people? Christian and Buddhist views on capital punishment? Forgiveness?	How can we manage our daily wellbeing? What are healthy and unhealthy coping strategies for? What are the risks of vaping, tobacco & alcohol? How can we manage our digital resilience?	What do positive & healthy relationships look like? What is gender identity & sexuality? Forming new partnerships & developing relationships? Consent? Sexting & managing pressure & requests?	1. What influences our beliefs? What is gender based discrimination? What is transphobia? What is homophobia & Biphobia? What is racism? What is religious discrimination? How can we tackle prejudice & discrimination?

		towards the environment?				2. How can we navigate online communication safely? What is online grooming (CSE, radicalisation)? What is public & private media? Why are age ratings important? How can we spot biased or misleading information?
Assessment	Essay: Why do some people believe in God, while others do not?	Extended paragraph / reflection on: Can religious and science work together?	Essay: Should the UK bring back capital punishment?	Regular self-assessment to track confidence in these topics. Teacher assessed case studies to check knowledge & understanding	Regular self-assessment to track confidence in these topics. Teacher assessed case studies to check knowledge & understanding	Regular self-assessment to track confidence in these topics. Teacher assessed case studies to check knowledge & understanding
Cross-Curricular Links						

Any questions? Please contact: Sophie Anderson (Head of RS & CZ) - sophie.anderson@whptrust.org