



HEADLANDS SCHOOL
SINCE 1965

RS Curriculum Overview

This overview document details what students will be studying in this subject area over the course of their time with us and the skills and knowledge they will be covering. Students will be formally assessed across the year and their progress and ATL (Attitude to Learning) will be reported home at the end of each term. Assessments will aim to assess the knowledge and skills a student has covered up to that point in their education, including the curriculum covered in the previous year/s.

Half term	02.09.25 - 23.10.25	03.11.25 - 19.12.25	05.01.26 - 13.02.26	23.02.26 - 26.03.26	13.04.26 - 22.05.26	01.06.26 - 17.07.26
	Autumn 1 - 8 weeks	Autumn 2 - 7 weeks	Spring 1 - 6 weeks	Spring 2 - 5 weeks	Summer 1 - 5 weeks	Summer 2 - 7 weeks
Year						
7	<u>Jewish Identity and Belief</u> What is the Jewish belief in God? How has the religion developed? What is the concept of a covenant? What impact on belief does a covenant have?	<u>Jewish Life and Rituals</u> What does Jewish practice look like? How do Jews Worship? Why is shabbat important? How does religious practice affect Jewish life?	<u>The Life of Jesus</u> What is the Christian belief about the Holy Trinity? How do Christians view the person of Jesus? What did Jesus do while on earth? Why is Jesus' sacrifice important	<u>How Jesus' teachings shape Christian worship</u> What forms of worship do Christians do because of Jesus' life? How is Christian life impacted by Jesus?	<u>The role of the 5 pillars of Islam</u> What are the key beliefs in Islam? How do the 5 pillars affect Muslim lives? Why are the 5 pillars important to Muslims?	<u>Religious Festivals</u> What is the difference between a festival and a celebration? How do religions celebrate different festivals?

	<u>Caring for Creation</u>	<u>Life after Death</u>	<u>Rites of Passage - Christianity</u>	<u>Rites of Passage - Judaism</u>	<u>Faith into Action</u>	<u>Expressing Religious Identity</u>
Year						
8	<u>Caring for Creation</u> How do the Abrahamic religions believe the universe and humanity were created? How does Science explain the beginning of the universe and humanity? Why should religions care for creation?	<u>Life after Death</u> What are the religious concepts of life after death, Christianity, Judaism and Buddhism? How do our actions affect the afterlife?	<u>Rites of Passage - Christianity</u> What are the Christian rites of passage? How do rites of passage link to belief? Why do religions do rites of passage?	<u>Rites of Passage - Judaism</u> What are the Jewish rites of passage? How do rites of passage link to belief? Why do religions do rites of passage?	<u>Faith into Action</u> How do religions demonstrate their faith in their actions? What impact can faith into action have on society? How did Martin Luther King Jr put his faith into action?	<u>Expressing Religious Identity</u> How do religions demonstrate their identity through; art, food, dress and music? What impact can these have on personal belief?

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Year 9	<u>Personhood and Sanctity of life</u>		<u>Sin and Justice</u>	<u>Religiosity Vs Spiritual Expression</u>	<u>Holocaust</u>
	What does the term ensoulment mean?		What does justice mean?	Can you be spiritual and not religious?	Explore the Jewish experience of the Holocaust, using images, testimonies and video clips
	What is the concept of personhood?		Are there good reasons to commit crime?	Do you need religion to be a moral person?	
	Why do religions believe in the sanctity of life?		What are the aims of punishment and how are they delivered?	Does spirituality offer something that religion can't in modern society?	
	Where does sin come from?		What are the religious views on treatment of prisoners?		
	What are the different views on Abortion and Euthanasia?		Why are their different views on the death penalty?		
	What are the ethical/ moral ideas of Utilitarianism and situation Ethics				

Year 10						
	<u>Judaism- Belief</u>	<u>Judaism- Practice</u>	<u>Sex and relationships</u>	<u>Religion and life</u>	<u>Religion, crime and punishment</u>	<u>Religion Human rights and social justice</u>
	What is the Jewish belief in God?	How do Jews practise their religion?	How do Jews view families and marriage?	When does life begin?	How does Judaism view crime and criminals?	What are Human Rights?
	What are the Jewish covenants and why are they central to Jewish belief?	What is the difference between Orthodox and Reform Jews?	What are the different views on contraception?	How should we care for the planet?	What is the British legal system?	How do Jews carry out social justice?
	What is the Jewish belief in the afterlife?	How is Shabbat performed?	How has family life changed over time?	What is the purpose of life?	How should criminals be treated?	
	How are Jews judged by their actions?	What are the High Jewish festivals?				
	What are the Jewish key moral principles?	How do Jews complete the rites of passage?				

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	Core Ethics					

Year 10	<i>Is the Justice System Just?</i>	<i>Medical Ethics</i>	<i>Extremism and Radicalisation</i>
	How is the legal system structured? Is the death penalty always delivered correctly? What issues are there with the justice system? Should children be tried as adults if they murder? When do we understand the concept of right and wrong?	Should Euthanasia be made legal? How far should we use stem cells? Is IVF messing with the natural order? What issues arise with genetic engineering?	How are people radicalised? What are the dangers of extremism? How do extreme views affect society? Are all cults dangerous?

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Year 11	<i>Christianity - Belief</i>	<i>Christian - Practice</i>	<i>Sex and Relationships/Religion and Life</i>	<i>Religion, crime and punishment/ Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice</i>	<i>Revision and skills practice for Year 11 GCSE Exam</i>	
	What is the Christian understanding of God and the Holy Trinity? Why is Jesus important? What is the incarnation, resurrection and ascension? What is the Christian view of salvation? How are Christians judged after death?	How do Christians worship? What is the difference between liturgical and non liturgical? Why is the Eucharist important? What is the role of the church in the local community? What is Christian mission and evangelism?	How do Christians view marriage and family life? Christian views on contraception, abortion and euthanasia? Religious teachings about marriage? How should religions treat the environment and animals?	How do Christians view crime? How do Christians carry out social justice? How do Christians view suffering and causing suffering to others? What is the status and role of women in religion?		

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Year 12	<p>Philosophy Introduction to the design argument Link to Purpose/Telos Criticism of argument Ontological Argument- Anselm's 1st/2nd Critiques of Ontological Argument - Gaunilo & Kant. Cosmological Argument (Aquinas' 3rd Way).</p> <p>Judaism Overview of Judaism. Key terms: Tenakh, Talmud, Orthodox/Reform. Sources of Authority - The Tenakh and the role of the Rabbi. Nature of God - Omnipotence, one God. Maimonides. Judaism mini-debate: Can God suffer? Is God male? Introducing Life After Death - She'ol, resurrection, soul.</p> <p>Ethics Intro to Ethics. What is ethical theory? Deontological/teleological/virtue. Natural Moral Law: Origins in Aquinas and Stoicism. NML - Principle of double effect, moral dilemmas. Apply NML to lying and theft. Introduce application format. Intro to Situation Ethics - Fletcher, agape love. SE - Six principles. Fletcher's case studies.</p>	<p>Philosophy Evil & Suffering recap (natural/moral evil; problem of evil) Responses to evil: Soul-making (Hick) Free Will Defence (Plantinga) Process Theodicy (Griffin) - link to science Religious Experience - Types (visions, numinous, mystical) Swinburne: credulity & testimony - evaluating RE</p> <p>Judaism Self, death & afterlife - Resurrection of the dead, soul vs She'ol Jewish beliefs about Olam HaBa, immortality, process thought Judaism: Good conduct - mitzvot, pikuach nefesh Continue good conduct: sanctity of life and embryo ethics Judaism: gender + sexuality - feminist critiques, Reform vs Orthodox</p> <p>Ethics Virtue Ethics - Aristotle, golden mean Applied ethics: Abortion (intro + NML/SE/VE)</p> <p>Euthanasia</p>	<p>Philosophy Religious Language - Via Negativa, Aquinas' analogy Language as symbolic (Tillich) & language games (Wittgenstein) Verification and Falsification principles (Ayer, Flew) Judaism + Philosophy Dialogue intro (preview) Evil, Religious Language, Arguments</p> <p>Judaism Judaism and Science - conflict or compatibility? Scientific challenges to Judaism (evolution, Schroeder) Jewish responses to scientific ethical dilemmas (e.g. genetic engineering)</p> <p>Judaism and Secularisation - personal sphere, militant atheism</p> <p>Ethics Animal Ethics - intro: food, testing, farming ethical approaches comparison</p>	<p>Philosophy Miracles - Definitions: realist vs anti-realist Hume vs Wiles - comparison of views on miracles Miracles continued - their significance for religion Self, Soul, Afterlife - Dualism vs Materialism</p> <p>Judaism Dialogue: Judaism & Philosophy - Reason vs Faith Judaism & Religious Experience</p> <p>Ethics Bentham - Hedonic calculus & Act Utilitarianism Kant - Duty, Categorical Imperative Comparison: Bentham vs Kant</p>	<p>Philosophy Self, Soul, Afterlife - Descartes' Dualism vs Materialism Afterlife: Evaluation (resurrection vs reincarnation)</p> <p>Judaism Dialogue: Judaism & Philosophy - Reason vs Faith Judaism & Religious Experience</p> <p>Ethics Free Will & Moral Responsibility - intro: conditions of moral responsibility Libertarianism, Hard Determinism Compatibilism + criticisms</p> <p>Conscience - intro to Aquinas and Newman Freud, Fromm, modern views on conscience</p>	<p>Philosophy Philosophy Revision Clinic: Evil, RE, Soul Synoptic Essay Planning Workshop: dialogue between Philosophy and Judaism</p> <p>Judaism Judaism Revision Clinic: Pluralism, Conduct, Science Dialogue application: e.g. <i>"To what extent does Judaism support reason over faith?"</i></p> <p>Ethics Ethics Revision Clinic: Natural Law & SE Apply ethical theories to synoptic scenarios Ethics synoptic link: Judaism & Kant/Bentham</p>

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Year 13	<p><u>Philosophy</u> Miracles Self, Soul, Afterlife</p> <p><u>Judaism</u></p> <p><u>Migration and pluralism</u></p> <p><u>Ethics</u> Metaethics Naturalism and utilitarianism Divine command theory Freewill and moral responsibility determinism Moral responsibility</p>	<p><u>Philosophy</u> Revision of synoptic skills Philosophy and religion dialogue</p> <p><u>Judaism</u> Judaism and philosophy</p> <p><u>Ethics</u> Conscience - Aquinas & Newman vs secular views Dialogues applied to Year 1</p>	<p><u>Philosophy</u> <u>Full synoptic prep</u></p> <p><u>Judaism</u></p> <p><u>Dialogues: Judaism and Ethics</u></p> <p><u>Ethics</u> Dialogues applied to Year1: Marriage, sexuality and gender. Wealth Freedom of religious expression</p>	<p><u>Philosophy</u> Timed essay practice Recap weak points</p> <p><u>Judaism</u> Timed essay practice Recap weak points</p> <p><u>Ethics</u> Timed essay practice Recap weak points Revision of topics</p>	Revision of skills and exam prep	