

# **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

## **GCSE**

### **Course Overview**

Two religious areas will be studied - Islam and Christianity. You will learn the practices and beliefs of both religions, as well as contrasting these beliefs to non-religious ideas.

Topics covered will be:

- ★ Christianity - Beliefs
- ★ Marriage and family life
- ★ Living the religious life
- ★ Matters of Life and Death
- ★ Islam - Beliefs
- ★ Crime and Punishment
- ★ Living the Religious Life
- ★ Peace and conflict

### **Examination Board and Assessment**

There will be two externally set examination papers.

Edexcel Examination Board			
Paper 1	Christianity	1 hour 45 minutes	50%
Paper 2	Islam	1 hour 45 minutes	50%

### **Is this course right for me?**

Students who enjoy expressing their opinions and learning about the views of others in relation to ethical and moral issues.

## RE DEPARTMENT: STATEMENT OF CURRICULUM INTENT

### **INTENT**

The Religious Education department is an incredibly enriching subject for students – seeking to tackle the big philosophical questions of life. As well as developing secure factual knowledge of moral and religious beliefs, we encourage students to ask deep and meaningful questions about their own worlds and the lives we share. We aim to develop attitudes of thoughtfulness and confidence about themselves - skills which are invaluable as they face the issues that are present in 21<sup>st</sup> century living.

Following the agreed local syllabus for Havering, students are encouraged to explore shared human experience, beliefs and values, religious tradition and personal meaning.

Teachers in the Religious Education department are passionate and dedicated in their commitment to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment for all students regardless of personal beliefs or views. All students are valued for their own personal beliefs and opinions and are encouraged to continue to develop their analytical and critical thinking to encourage academic progress.

### **KS3**

At **Key Stage 3** religion is studied within the context of different traditions, sacred texts and philosophy. Each topic includes an end of unit assessment which reflects ‘GCSE style’ exam questions. This allows students to develop their extended writing from year 7 and be fully prepared for the requirements of the GCSE course.

#### Year 7

- The life and mission of Jesus Christ
- The traditions of the Muslim faith
- The different ethical and moral arguments for making life decisions
- Divergent religious and non-religious views that respond to the arguments of evil and suffering

#### Year 8

- Islamic theology and beliefs
- Exploring the main religious of India
- The traditions of the Christian faith
- Heroes of our century

#### Year 9

- The changes to family life and structure over time
- Divergent religious and non-religious views towards homosexuality, contraception and equal rights
- Divergent religious and non-religious views about life after death
- Exploring the Ethics and laws around Abortion and Euthanasia
- Considering the impact and ethics of 21<sup>st</sup> living in relation to global warming, climate change and animal rights.

### **KS4**

At **Key Stage 4**, we follow the Edexcel Specification ‘B’. This specification reflects the fact that the religious traditions of Great Britain are, in the main, Christian, while taking into account another tradition in the UK, Islam. Students are continually assessed throughout the course, with both formative and summative assessments reflecting the GCSE exam structure.

The course is assessed through two examinations at the end of year 11.

Year 10

- Exploring the way Christians seek to express their faith through traditions, celebrations and rituals.
- Comparing and considering the main beliefs of the Islamic faith
- Exploring the way Muslims seek to express their faith through traditions, celebrations and rituals.

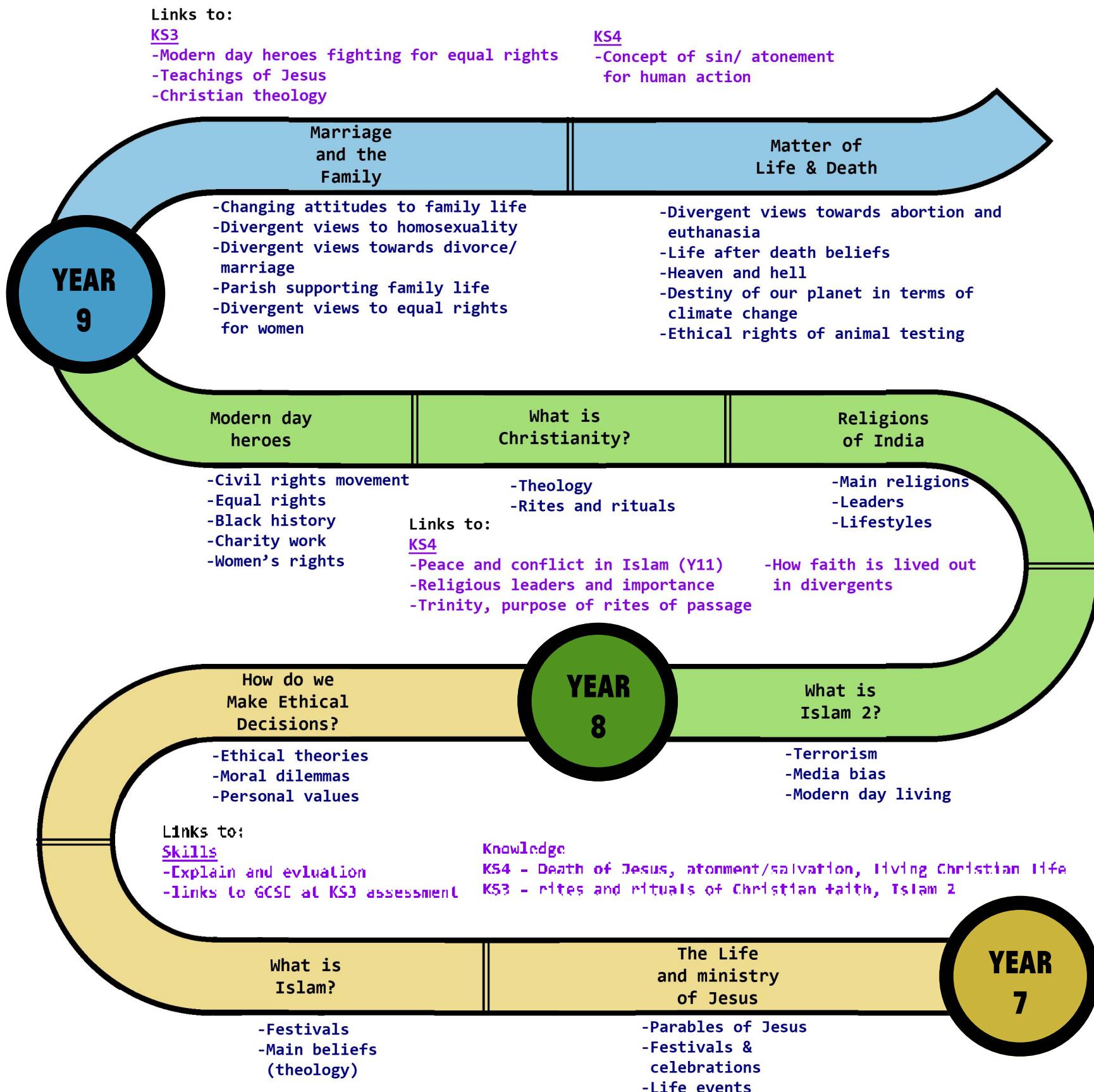
Year 11

- Crime and punishment in the Islamic tradition
- Divergent Islamic and non- religious views on the treatment of criminals and the justice system
- Divergent Islamic and non-religious views on war
- The ethics of Nuclear weapons
- Pacifism
- The ethics of warfare



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## KS3





# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## KS4

SOWA -  
Source of  
Wisdom and  
Authority

