

Curriculum Planning (Society & Ethics)

Rationale

The purpose of the Society & Ethics curriculum is to provide the students of The Market Weighon School with the cultural capital to have as many options as possible when leaving at the end of Year 11. Market Weighon is a traditional rural market town that places great importance on the local community. However, this often leads students to having a limited world view. Therefore the curriculum is designed in order to:

- To enable students to think critically and question information and the sources of that information.
- To help students to feel empathy towards other and to consider the feelings and thoughts of different individuals.
- To enable students to see all arguments as two sided and to evaluate the strength of evidence in order to form fully justified conclusions.
- To provide students with an understanding of their place in the world as global citizens and to consider the major challenges that society faces.
- To enable students to clearly and effectively articulate their thoughts either verbally or written with a particular focus on the development of explanations and reasoning.

Pedagogical Methodology

We have decided to arrange the content of the curriculum in a thematic manner, for example looking at 'founders of faith' as a topic rather than an individual religion. This will help students to make connections between different faiths and recognise key religious concepts such as prophethood, martyrdom and revelation. The topics in KS3 focus on the beliefs and practices of religion in more detail, giving students the 'core' knowledge, before then applying this knowledge to conceptual topics such as suffering, ethics and the making of the modern world.

Assessment

At KS3, students are assessed through two assessment objectives, their ability to explain religious beliefs and practices, and their ability to evaluate the importance of different religious aspects or ethical questions. Assessments are usually written, although there are some topics that are assessed through a student led presentation.

Assessment is less formal at KS4 as there is no formal exam, although there are frequent opportunities for extended writing which will be marked, but no grade given.

Foundation Learning



Foundation Learners receive adapted access to the mainstream Society & Ethics Curriculum in lessons delivered by the Humanities HLTA, Caroline Hall. The overall aim is for Foundation Learners to build the basic skills that go with the subject allowing them a knowledge of the beliefs and practices of the main world religions and to develop their critical thinking skills.

Just as with the mainstream curriculum Foundation Learners will enhance their Cultural Capital by exposure to themes relevant to their local area, nationally and internationally.

Long term planning grid

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
7	Ultimate Questions	Ultimate Questions	Founders of Faith	Founders of Faith	Places of Pilgrimage	Attitudes to the Almighty
8	Rules and Rituals	Rules and Rituals	Crime and Punishment	Rights & Responsibilities	Rights & Responsibilities	Protecting the Planet
9	Prejudice and Discrimination	Prejudice and Discrimination	Strength and Suffering	Strength and Suffering	The Holocaust	The Holocaust
10	Rwandan Genocide	Rwandan Genocide	Influential Individuals	Influential Individuals	Ethical Approaches	Ethical Approaches
11	Making Modern Britain	Making Modern Britain	Making the Modern World	Making the Modern World		

Medium Term Planning

Topic	Big Questions	Lesson	Key Knowledge and Skills / Assessment	Links to other subjects
7.1 Ultimate Questions	Why are Ultimate Questions important?	1	Introduction to philosophy	History
	Does God exist?	2 & 3	Main arguments for and against the existence of God. Extended written answer.	Physics Maths
	What is the Meaning of Life?	4	Key terms and different perspectives on the meaning of life.	
	Is there Life after Death?	5 & 6	Different religious and non-religious beliefs on	



			what happens after death.	
	Is it ever Right to do the Wrong Thing?	7 & 8	Introduction to Ethics	
	Do we really have Free Will?	9	Different perspectives of the meaning of free will and how we make decisions	Sociology
7.2 Founders of Faith	Why do Religions need Prophets?	1	Introduction to the concept of prophethood	
	What was the most important Event in Muhammad's Life?	2 & 3	Key events in the establishment of Islam. Extended written answer.	
	Can Religions begin without Revelation?	4	Introduction to the concept of revelation.	
	How is Martyrdom and Sacrifice important starting Religions	5 & 6	A comparison of Jesus and Hussayn and their importance to Christianity and Shi'a Islam respectively.	
	Which moment in the Buddha's Life was the most important?	7 & 8	Key events in the establishment of Buddhism. Extended written answer.	
7.3 Places & Pilgrimage	What is Pilgrimage?	1	Introduction to the concept of pilgrimage.	
	Why do Muslims complete Hajj?	2 & 3	The different sites in around Mecca and their importance to Muslims. Extended written answer.	
	Why and how are Churches and Mosques different from each other?	4	Key features of the two holy buildings, and the reasons for these.	
	What are the Four Sites of Buddhist Pilgrimage?	5 & 6	The importance of the four different sites. Extended written answer.	
	Why does Jerusalem matter so much?	7 & 8	The importance of Jerusalem in Islam, Christianity and Judaism.	

7.4 Attitudes	Do Muslims know what Allah is like?	1 & 2	The importance of Allah's characteristics and how that affects how Muslims treat him. Extended written answer.	
---------------	-------------------------------------	-------	--	--



	How should People speak to their God?	3	A comparison of set, informal and private prayer in Christianity.	
	Is God a Force for Good or Evil?	4 & 5	A study of <i>The Brothers Karamasov</i> and evidence for and against God being good.	English
	Which Hindu God is the most important?	6 & 7	Introduction to the different Hindu gods and their importance. Extended written answer.	
	How can a Religion be Atheist?	8	A comparison of how Buddhism works compared to the other main world religions.	
8.1 Rules & Rituals	Which of the Five Precepts is the most effective at reducing Suffering	1 & 2	An introduction to the origin of the 5 precepts and how Buddhists follow them today. Extended written answer	
	What do Muslims do to Follow the Five Pillars	3 & 4	What each pillar involved, why they are important to Muslims and the challenges of following them today.	
	How do the 5 K's affect the Lives of Sikhs?	5	An introduction to the 5 K's and how following them could be a challenge in modern Britain.	
	How do Rites of Passage differ between Religions?	6	A comparison of rites of passage ceremonies in Judaism, Hinduism and Christianity.	
	Why is Diwali important for Hindus?	7	A study of the importance of Diwali, it's origins and how it is celebrated.	
8.2 Purpose of Punishment	What is the Purpose of the Prison System?	1 & 2	A study of different prison systems across Europe and their effectiveness.	Sociology
	Why is there Inequality in Sentencing in the UK?	3	Looking at the data of sentencing rates for different demographics.	Sociology Maths
	How can Offenders be forgiven?	4 & 5	Different ways in which offenders are forgiven/rehabilitated in the UK including employment and restorative justice.	



	How effective are Islamic Punishments?	6	Hadd punishments as set out by the Qur'an, their purpose and use in the modern world.	
	Should the UK use Capital Punishment?	7 & 8	An evaluation of the arguments for and against the use of the death penalty. Extended written answer	History
8.3 Rights & Responsibilities	What are the main Benefits of living in a Democracy?	1	Advantages and disadvantages of different political systems	History
	Which Political Party best represents your Values?	2 & 3	A study of the most recent manifestos of the UK's main political parties.	
	Is the Way we choose our Leaders fair?	3 & 4	How the voting system works, its advantages and disadvantages compared to PR. Extended written answer.	
	How are Laws made in the UK?	5	The process of laws are created from drafts to royal assent.	
	How can Individuals lead to Political Change?	6 & 7	A study of different people who have led to political change including examples of members bills that ended capital punishment and legalized abortion in the UK.	History
8.4 Protecting the Planet	Why is the Environment important from a Religious Perspective?	1	A study of the concept of stewardship in Christianity, Islam and Buddhism.	
	What is the Worst Problem that Humanity faces?	2 & 3	Evaluation of the severity of different environmental problems and how they are linked together. Extended written answer.	Geography Science
	What is the best Way to Generate Energy?	4	Different methods of renewable energy and their advantages.	Geography Science
	Which Environmental Organisation is the most Successful?	5 & 6	Evaluation of different environmental organisations and their success. Extended written answer.	



	Should Animal Testing be used for the Benefit of Humans?	7 & 8	The pros and cons of animal testing and laws about its use.	Science
9.1 Prejudice & Discrimination	Is Prejudice or Discrimination worse?	1 & 2	Definition of the two terms and applying them to different scenarios.	
	Is 2021 the best Time to be a Member of the LGBT Community?	3 & 4	A timeline of LGBT rights in UK, and the lived experience of the LGBT community today.	History
	Was is the Legacy of the Murder of Stephen Lawrence?	5 & 6	The context surrounding the murder of Stephen Lawrence, the failed police investigation and recommendations of the MacPherson report.	
	Has the BLM Movement improved Race Relations?	7	The motives and reasons behind the BLM movement and the impact that it has had in British society.	
	How does Society reinforce Gender Stereotypes?	8	The concept of gender, how the stereotypes are shown and the impact they have on gender equality.	
9.2 Suffering & Strength	In what ways do we experience Suffering?	1	An introduction to suffering, and examples of natural and moral suffering.	
	To what extent do you agree with Buddha's view on Suffering?	2 & 3	The four noble truths, examples of how people have contributed to the suffering caused by natural disasters.	
	What Problems does Suffering cause for Theists?	4	How the existence of suffering contradicts Christian and Muslim views on the nature of God.	
	Which Theodicy is the most Convincing?	5 & 6	Evaluation of different theodicies – theories people have established to explain the existence of suffering without disproving God.	
	What are the most Effective ways of	7 & 8	Different strategies to deal with suffering/stress and importance of	



	dealing with suffering?		mindfulness with regards to good mental health.	
9.3 The Holocaust	What is Genocide?	1	Introduction to the concept of genocide and key examples, similarities etc.	History
	Who is to Blame for the Holocaust?	2 & 3	A study of different groups and individuals involved in the Holocaust and an evaluation of the extent of their role.	History
	What was it like to discover the Holocaust?	4	Use of primary and secondary sources to consider the impact of liberation on British civilians and soldiers.	History
	How did Britain react to Nazism?	5	Examples of Britain's relationship with Nazi Germany prior to the outbreak of war.	History
	Was Justice achieved after the Holocaust?	6 & 7	Students to consider the appropriate punishment for 8 individuals involved in the Holocaust, comparing their thoughts with the punishments they received.	History
	How should the Holocaust be remembered today?	8 & 9	A study of different Holocaust memorials from around the world, before students design their own.	History
10.1 Rwandan Genocide	How does the History of Rwanda explain the Situation in 1994?	1	An introduction to the history of Rwanda, the two tribes and the impact of European colonisation on the country.	
	How did the Rwandan Genocide begin?	2	The event immediately preceding, and those that caused the Rwandan genocide and the early parts of the genocide.	
	Should the UN have intervened in Rwanda?	3 & 4	Arguments for and against the UN's involvement and the perspectives of key individuals such as Romeo Delleaire and Kofi Annan.	



	How can Media be used to influence History?	5, 6 & 7	A study of the film 'Hotel Rwanda' and how Paul Rusesabagina is portrayed compared to reality.	
	Rwanda Today: How has the nation recovered?	8	The concept of forgiveness and how it has been used to help Rwanda after 1994.	
10.2 Inspirational Individuals	Do we need inspirational Figures to be 'perfect'?	1	An introduction to inspirational figures and study of examples such as Church or MLK who are considered heroes.	
	Is Che Guevara a Freedom Fighter or a Terrorist?	2 & 3	Che Guevara's involvement in the Cuban Revolution and use of terrorist tactics to achieve a noble cause.	
	How have Children and Young People made a positive Change?	3 & 4	Study on Malala and Greta Thunberg and their respective impact on women's education and climate change.	
	How can somebody be inspirational without Words?	5 & 6	Iconic photographs that have made a significant impact on the world, such as 'tank man', the 1968 Olympics and the work of Kevin Carter in Sudan.	
	Do we need inspirational Figures in the 21 st Century?	7	A consideration of sections of society that need more rights and how inspirational figures could contribute to this.	
10.3 Ethical Approaches	What are the main Theoretical Approaches to Ethics?	1	An introduction to key ethical theory such as utilitarianism and Kantianism.	
	Should the UK do more to help Refugees?	2 & 3	An evaluation of the arguments for and against doing more to help refugees.	
	Should the UK Government assume that we want to donate our Organs?	4	The current UK law surrounding organ donation and the arguments for and against the opt-out system.	Science



	Should the UK decriminalise the use of Cannabis?	5 & 6	Study of different countries and their attitudes to the use of cannabis a recreational drug and whether the UK should make any change.	Science
	Is it ethical to have Billionaires?	7	A study of the growth of billionaires and what that tells us about society.	
11.1 Making Modern Britain	Leveson: Do the Press have too much Freedom?	1	A study of the phone hacking scandal and subsequent Leveson inquiry into press ethics.	
	How have 7/7 and the Manchester Bombings affected the British Muslim Community?	2	A study of the EU report into the effects of the 7/7 bombings on Muslims across Europe and in Britain, and how different bodies responded to support them.	
	What was Life like in Thatcher's Britain?	3 & 4	How the successive Thatcher governments had positive and negative impacts on different sections of society.	History
	Why is there Conflict in Ireland?	5 & 6	The key concepts of Republicanism and Unionism, the growth and impact of the IRA and the Good Friday Agreement.	History
	Has Britain's role in Global Conflict been justified?	7 & 8	Britain's role in the Falklands, Afghanistan and Iraq and an evaluation of the reasons for an against Britain's involvement.	
11.2 Making the Modern World	Why is there Conflict between Israel and Palestine?	1 & 2	Linking from previous learning on the importance of Jerusalem, students look at the current situation and reasons surrounding the conflict.	
	How significant is China's Role in the World?	3	Reasons behind China's growth into a world superpower, and the ways this influences what happens in Britain.	Geography
	From Hiroshima to Chernobyl: What are	4 & 5	Different uses of nuclear energy, and specific and	History



	the Dangers of Nuclear?		personal accounts of its dangers and whether it should be used in the future.	
	Why should Srebrenica be remembered?	6	Study of the Srebrenica massacre in Bosnia, and reasons why it should be remembered today.	
	Brexit, Trump and BLM: How can the World be less divided	7 & 8	Recent events that caused division in society, how social media has made these divisions worse and a variety of ways societal cohesion could be improved.	

Sharing of medium term plans will allow each subject to reflect and re-order content to support colleagues in other subjects or teach content making links to other subjects explicit.

Short Term Planning

Individual lesson resources and assessments to include high quality texts and images. Lessons should promote the explicit teaching of vocabulary and give opportunities to speak, read and write extensively using high-level subject vocabulary. Core numeracy skills should be incorporated into lessons where they can be covered in a real world context.

Opportunities should be created to support the wider curriculum:

- PSHE / RSE
- Careers
- Citizenship and British Values
- Financial Education

Planning should be shared across the department.

Teachers can adapt lessons to match needs to students.