Year 7: Philosophy

Curriculum Intent: This year students will be introduced to the ideas of philosophy, ethics and religion. We first start by introducing students to what religion and worldviews are. Students then look at how Greek philosophy has shaped western worldviews. Philosophy lessons train our students to ask questions and experience ways of thinking about religion through different lenses which can help them when approaching any topic. Students then study the Abrahamic faiths in chronological order so that they are easier to understand. We aim to build on the introduction that students would have had to these religions in primary school by going into much more detail, such as introducing students to the Trinity in Christianity, a concept students can often struggle with at Key Stage 4. The curriculum is also designed to ensure that students understand that there are a variety of differing beliefs within a religion itself, such as the different interpretations of the Creation Story. Studying Islam after Christianity allows students to see the various ways in which these religions are connected. Students should have a good understanding of the key beliefs and teachings within these religions and how these are practised by people today. They should also understand some of the challenges faced by followers of these religions. Studying Christianity and Islam at Key Stage 3 gives the students a good foundation for when they go on to study these religions for the OCR GCSE.



	Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
Topic Titles (in order of delivery)	1A: Introduction & Philosophy	1B: Judaism	2A: Christianity	2B: Christianity	3A: Islam	3B: Islam
Key knowledge / Retrieval topics	- What a worldview is - How our own world view might be shaped - What a religion is - Arguments for and against the existence of God - Plato's cave analogy - How women have contributed to philosophy	-Who Abraham was and why he is important - Who Moses was and why he is important - Why Jewish people celebrate Passover -The Tenakh - The Old Testament -What antisemitism is and how it is still impacting us today	- Christianity is the world's largest religion - There are different Christian denominations and not all Christians believe the same - The Trinity - The Creation Story - The persecution and growth of the Early Church	- The spread of Christianity - The Nicene Creed - Splits within the Christian church and the reasons for these - The importance of the Bible - Arguments for and against women leading the church -Jesus' death and resurrection and the importance of this.	- Islam is the world's second largest and fastest growing religion - There are two main groups within Islam – Sunni and Shi'a, who have differences in belief - Key Muslims beliefs – Tawhid and shirk - The key prophets in Islam and their importance (linking this to Christianity) - Reasons why Islam split	- What the Qur'an is and why it is important to Muslims - Muslim beliefs about what happens after we die – the day of judgement, paradise and hell - What the Five Pillars are and why they are important - Eid ul-Fitr and Eid ul-Adha - Arguments for and against hair coverings - Challenges faced by British Muslims,

						including Islamophobia		
Understanding / Sequence of delivery	 Year 7 Book (cathedrals) What is a worldview? What is religion? Does God exist? Who was Plato? Plato's cave analogy Women in Philosophy 	 Abraham Moses and Passover Jewish holy texts The Old Testament Antisemitism The Christmas Story (start of Christianity topic) 	 What is Christianity? What do Christians believe? Do all Christians believe the same? How did Christianity begin? What was life like for the Early Church? 	 Constantine and the Council of Nicea The Great Schism The Reformation What is the Bible? Should women lead the church? Easter 	 What is Islam? What do Muslims believe about God? Who are the prophets of Allah? Why did Islam split? 	 Why is the Qur'an important to Muslims? What do Muslims believe happens when we die? What are the Five Pillars? Celebrations in Islam What should women wear? What challenges do British Muslims face? 		
Assessment	The students will be assessed according to the Year 7 mastery statements. Each assessment will check their knowledge of the most recent topic studied as well as revisiting content from previous topics, allowing students to build on the knowledge they have already gained. A range of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions will be used. Guidance and sentence starters are given to help students as they begin to learn how to answer these questions. Students will be given the time to reflect on their achievements in the assessments and to set targets for further development.							