

Long Term Plan – Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (2025-26)

Vision: Our vision for our students is for them to become not just tolerant but appreciative of the variety of values, beliefs and practices that exist in Britain’s pluralistic society. This will involve challenging misconceptions and stereotypes that exist in the community and extending their knowledge and understanding of the major world faiths and atheism. We are passionate about them being aware of modern-day issues and events and aim for them to be able to make meaningful contributions to relevant debates. We will also use our subject as a vessel to promote and improve literacy. Collectively these aims will allow our students to leave New Mills School as well-informed, open-minded and considerate individuals.							Year End Points
	HT1	HT2	HT3	HT4	HT5	HT6	
Year 7	What is Faith?		Judaism as an Abrahamic Faith		What is Christianity?		By the end of Year 7 students are able to appreciate the difference between knowing and believing and understand a variety of world views including atheism, theism and agnosticism. They will know about contrasting views on how religious texts are interpreted, specifically literal and metaphoric interpretations. Students will know the connection between the Abrahamic religions and their origins within the prophets of Judaism. They will understand the person of Jesus as a key historical and religious figure, including from a Christian, Muslim, Jewish and atheist perspective. In addition, they will also know the central beliefs that all Christians hold. Students will know what a statement is and can respond to it by giving simple points for and against it and know how to explain their own view.
Year 8	Beliefs and Teaching – Islam What is it like to follow a Muslim way of life in Britain today?			Can you believe in science and religion?			By the end of Year 8 students will know the key beliefs and teachings of Islam building on their knowledge of the two other Abrahamic faiths studied in Year 7. They will know about the key figure of Muhammad and the belief that he is ‘The Seal of The Prophets’. Students will also know about differences and parallels between religious and scientific theories about the origins of the universe and human race and religious experience. They will be able to debate whether the followers of these religions can believe in both religion and science. Students will know how to develop points with examples, including the use of paraphrasing. They will know how to develop points by embedding quotes and use evidence to justify their answer.
Year 9	How can we become more selfless? The Sikh way			Ethics			By the end of Year 9 students know about the key beliefs and teachings of a fourth major world religious – Sikhism, and will know about the key concept of altruism that is found within religious teaching and specifically within Sikhism. Students will know about the discipline of ethics and how religious and non-religious people make decisions about what is morally right or wrong. They will know about ethical responses to the contemporary moral issues of genetic engineering, IVF, abortion and euthanasia. Students know how to create logical chains of argument, evaluate and form a conclusion.