



## Content - Big ideas

### Islam

Students will explore some core religious beliefs, teachings and practices relating to Islam. They will understand the importance of the Prophet Muhammad to Muslims, the meaning of tawhid and Muslim beliefs about life after death. We will consider some of the misconceptions surrounding Islam and consider why and how it might be challenging for a Muslim to express their faith in modern Britain.

**Big Questions:** What are the misconceptions and stereotypes surrounding Islam? What do Muslims believe about God? How do Muslims express their faith?

### Good and Evil

A philosophical investigation into the nature of good, evil and suffering. Students will examine the difference between natural and moral evil and whether religious explanations for evil, such as The Fall, stand up to philosophical scrutiny. They will examine beliefs about Satan and consider the concept of the Lesser of Two Evils.

**Big Questions:** What is evil and where does it come from? How do religious believers explain the existence of evil and suffering in a world created by God? Does the devil exist?

### Buddhism

Topics will include the historical development of Buddhism with a key focus on the life and experience of Siddharta Gotama. We will explore the philosophical basis of Buddhism, examining the Four Noble Truths, Eightfold Path and the nature and purpose of meditation. Students will make links between Buddhist beliefs, teachings, ethics and behaviour.

**Big Questions:** What are the Four Noble Truths? How do they form the basis for Buddhist belief? What is the Eightfold Path and how does it guide behaviour? What role does meditation play in Buddhist practice?

### Easter

This unit furthers students understanding of Christian belief and practice by exploring the crucifixion story. Students will investigate the events of the crucifixion/resurrection as recorded in the Bible and examine their significance for Christians.

**Big Questions:** What happened at the crucifixion/resurrection? Why is this important to Christians? What is the Doctrine of Atonement?

### Prejudice and Discrimination

Students will develop an understanding of the difference between prejudice, discrimination and stereotypes and explore different examples of prejudice and discrimination. They will consider the causes of prejudice and discrimination and explore historical examples such as slavery in the USA and Apartheid.

**Big Questions:** What is prejudice and discrimination? Where does prejudice come from? What does the law say? What are the consequences of prejudice and discrimination?

## Prior learning

Students will have an understanding of core Christian beliefs, teachings and practices before undertaking an in depth study of Easter.

## Global/IOM/Subject Links

**Global:** An expanding repertoire of knowledge on the major world religions. An understanding of religious stereotypes and misconceptions. Global Citizenship and challenging prejudice and discrimination. Materialism in Western society.

**IOM:** The difficulty of practicing Islam in the IOM.

**Subject Links:** History – slavery and apartheid.

## Subject specific skills development

Students will describe aspects of religion in an increasing breadth and depth.

Students will be able to suggest the meaning behind religious belief and behaviour.

Students will be able to show how religion makes a difference to the lives of adherents.

Students can explain their own views with an increasing clarity and level of justification.