



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

Religious Studies Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2022/23

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 10	Christian beliefs and teachings	
	What is God like?	Students examine the characteristics of God and the different views on the nature of God, including the concept of God as a Trinity of persons.
	Is the creation story in Genesis literally true?	Students get the opportunity to read the creation story in Genesis 1 and 2 and examine different and divergent interpretations of the Genesis creation story.
	If God is all powerful and all loving, why is there evil and suffering?	Students grapple with the question 'if God is a loving and righteous God why is there evil and suffering in the world?', including the philosophical and Christian responses.
	How does God show his love for the world?	Students study the life of Jesus, his teachings and key events in his life.
	Does Jesus' life fulfil God's promise of salvation?	Students examine the concept of salvation, atonement and the different Christian views about salvation.
	Death: is that the end?	Students examine Christian beliefs about resurrection, Hell, Heaven and purgatory.
	Christian practices	
	Do all Christians worship in the same way?	Students explore the different ways Christians worship depending on the traditions, denomination and an individual's preference.
	How does prayer bring a Christian closer to God?	Students examine how prayer forms part of worship and a way for the individual to communicate with God.
	How do Christians receive the blessings of God?	Students study the importance of sacraments for Christians, with a focus on Baptism and the Eucharist.
	Why are festivals important to Christians?	Students explore how Christians show their faith by marking certain festivals.
	How do Christians walk in the steps of Christ?	Students study the role and importance of pilgrimage and how this brings them closer to God
	What is the role of the church?	Students explore the role of the church in the community and wider world.
	Is it a Christians duty to share their faith?	Students study the role and purpose of evangelism.

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 11	Relationships and families	
	Are relationships and families the building blocks of society?	Students start by studying what Christians believe about the family, including attitudes towards the role and purpose of the Christian family, marriage and different attitudes to sexual relationships. Students learn and are made aware of the justifications Christians give for different views, attitudes and understandings, from the perspectives of different Christian denominations.
	Should men and women be equal?	Students explore Christian beliefs, teaching and attitudes about the roles of men and women, in both the family context and the wider Christian community. This includes the study of what the Bible teaches about parents and their responsibility towards their children. Students learn and are made aware of the justifications Christians give for different views, attitudes and understandings, from the perspectives of different Christian denominations.
	Is equality possible?	Students examine Christian understandings of equality and the influence of culture on these views. Also, Christian attitudes towards prejudice and discrimination. Students learn and are made aware of the justifications Christians give for different views, attitudes and understandings.
	Existence of God	
	Can we know what God is like?	Students study Christian responses to the 'question of God' including different understandings of what God is like and His relationship with the world and humanity (and human suffering)
	Can we prove God exists?	Students examine the nature of reality, including arguments for the existence of God and the impact these have on the lives of Christians.
	How can God be experienced?	Students explore the ways in which Christians believe God is revealed to them and the ways they might experience God.
	Religion, peace and conflict	
	Is it ever right to fight?	Students examine the Christian understandings of violence and conflict, including the roles Christians play in conflict and Christian attitudes to terrorism and warfare.
	What does it mean to be a peacemaker?	Students explore the idea of pacifism and Christian attitudes towards peace and peacemaking, including whether it is acceptable to use violence to achieve peace and how Christian individuals communities work for peace.
	Is forgiveness possible?	Students assess the concept of forgiveness, reconciliation and justice and Christian teachings about them, including social injustice and the ways Christians work to tackle it.
	Dialogue within and between religious and non-religious beliefs and attitudes	
	Is the UK more secular than religious?	Students examine the challenges for religion in modern British society, including the role of the church in public life and the potential clashes between religion, secular values and scientific developments.
	Should Christians be involved in interfaith dialogue?	Students explore dialogue within and between religious groups, including how Christian view other religious groups and the value of interfaith dialogue.
	Should beliefs remain private?	Students study dialogue within and between religious and non-religious groups, including values that are shared by Christian and non-religious groups and values that might cause disagreement between them.