



# Religion & Worldviews

## Our intent

Religion & Worldviews at TLA is an integral part of developing our young people and equipping them with critical thinking skills. As a department it is important to us that students are able to gain a balanced view of the world and understand the lived experience of faith. Students are prepared for life outside of school by encountering a range of worldviews in our curriculum. At our core, we teach students the skills to decipher why people may have differing opinions, and how to respect this. When students leave, it is our hope that they take with them, not only a sense of religious literacy, but the confidence to evaluate situations and make their own opinions on philosophical and sociological questions.



## Our 'why'

Our curriculum engages with a variety of religions and worldviews through the lenses of theology, philosophy, and sociology- what religions teach, why we believe things, and how it manifests itself in society. Our curriculum provides a strong theological base at KS3 to lay a foundation for all students joining the school to be able to discuss the beliefs and practices of major world religions. This knowledge is then used across the rest of the curriculum where students build on their theological knowledge and use this in philosophical and sociological enquiries. This will range from Year 7 such as 'what are core Buddhist beliefs?' to KS4 units such as 'what is the relationship between religion, peace, and conflict?'. Our programme of study is divided into Religion & Worldviews at KS3, which bears a heavy theological focus, and Beliefs & Ethics at KS4 that develops students' knowledge and applies it to ethical questions and issues raised in other subjects. Religion & Worldviews at TLA is a programme that reflects the needs of our pupils as individuals and global citizens.

## Our 'how'

Our broad and balanced curriculum is specifically designed to meet the needs of our students at TLA. Units and lessons are sequenced to develop students' understanding, build on ideas, and encourage religious literacy. We model and practice reading in line with our school priority, ranging from scripture to articles. To aid memory and retention retrieval is embedded into lessons for students to keep referring to core concepts. Students have the opportunity to engage with ideas through a variety of mediums. In lessons we offer different activities ranging from reading and debates, to drama and creative responses for students to approach things from different angles. To reflect our students' diverse range of skills we assess students in a variety of ways across the curriculum. This varies from traditional essay questions and vocabulary tests, to academic inquiries and ethics debates. At the core of our department we help students to learn through inclusivity and providing an environment where students feel valued.

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