

Core RE Learning Journey

What are the matters of life in contemporary society?

Students explore views on when life begins and discuss abortion, fertility treatments, transplants, genetic engineering, cloning, and human experimentation. The unit examines ethical and moral questions from religious and non-religious perspectives, encouraging critical thinking about the impact of these issues on individuals and society.

Where are we going?

Year 11 Core RE begins with recapping beliefs about life after death, covering religious views like heaven, reincarnation, and resurrection. Students also examine alternative ideas such as soul immortality, AI, mediums, and near-death experiences. The unit encourages reflection on these perspectives and personal thoughts about life, death, and what follows.

How might society best respond to world poverty?

Year 10 concludes with exploring why some countries are high- or low-income and the effects on their people, including rising child and period poverty. Students study how religious and non-religious groups support those in need and reflect on ways to help reduce poverty both locally and globally.

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What are less well known religious movements and worldviews?

Students explore lesser-known religious movements and alternative beliefs, comparing them with cults. The unit examines how these groups fit into society and are perceived by others. This explores understanding of diverse worldviews and encourages respect for different beliefs and cultural perspectives.

How does drug abuse impact on society?

Year 10 Core RE begins with the different types of drugs, reasons for use, and responsibility for helping affected individuals. It examines consequences like Leah Betts' case, police efforts to combat drug misuse, and religious and non-religious views. Students reflect on personal and social responsibility regarding drug abuse and its impact.

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Where was God during the Holocaust?

Finally, students learn about Nazi persecution of Jewish people, life in ghettos, and resistance. The unit explores forgiveness challenges and questions God's presence during suffering. Students reflect on how faith, identity, and humanity were impacted during this dark historical period, fostering understanding of resilience and moral complexity.

What is the cause of evil and suffering in the world? What is the impact?

The first unit explores the causes and impact of evil and suffering, including natural disasters and human cruelty. Students examine different explanations, such as Pandora's Box, Buddhist views on greed, and Christian beliefs about free will. They reflect on responsibility, personal responses, and how suffering challenges the idea of a perfect world.

Is war and conflict necessary in society? What is the impact?

Students examine why countries go to war, including weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. They study religious views supporting and opposing war, its impact on people, and how religious charities aid victims. The unit encourages reflection on moral, ethical, and religious responses to war and its consequences.

How is religion portrayed in the media? What is the impact?

Students explore how religious believers use media, including during pilgrimages like Hajj. The unit examines positive and negative media portrayals of religion and their impact on public opinion. Students reflect on how media shapes understanding of faiths, affects religious communities, and influences wider societal attitudes.

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Should animals be treated equally to humans? What is the impact?

This unit explores if animals should be treated equally to humans by examining religious and non-religious views on meat-eating, animal testing, and ethical treatment. Students reflect on responsibilities toward animals, consider different perspectives on welfare and rights, and discuss the impact of human actions on animal lives.

How does society respond to prejudice and discrimination? What is the impact?

This unit explores how society responds to prejudice and discrimination, including racism, sexism, and homophobia. Students examine real-life examples, legal protections, and efforts to promote equality. They reflect on their own role in challenging injustice, encouraging empathy, respect, and social responsibility in creating a fairer, more inclusive society.

How does Sikh dharma help Sikhs to make moral decisions? What is the impact?

Sikh Dharma guides moral choices through belief in Waheguru, the Gurus, and seva (selfless service). Key practices like worship, langar, and wearing the 5Ks reflect these values. These teachings shape ethical conduct, daily life, and views on life after death, encouraging spiritual growth and the pursuit of liberation.

How does Buddha dharma help Buddhists to make moral decisions? What is the impact?

Buddha Dharma guides Buddhists in making moral decisions through key beliefs like the Four Sights, Noble Eightfold Path, and Five Precepts. These shape worship, meditation, and community life. They also influence views on life after death, encouraging mindfulness, ethical living, and compassion in everyday actions and relationships.

How does Hindu dharma help Hindus to make moral decisions? What is the impact?

Hindu Dharma, the first dharmic religion, guides moral choices through beliefs in Brahman, deities, and life after death. Principles like ahimsa promote non-violence, while karma and reincarnation encourage righteous living. These beliefs shape daily actions, worship, and ethical decisions, aiming for spiritual growth and a better future.

How can Jesus' teachings help Christians to challenge injustice and show compassion?

Christianity, the second Abrahamic religion, teaches that Jesus' life and actions, such as caring for the poor, sick, and outcasts, inspire believers to show compassion and challenge injustice. His message of love over judgement encourages Christians to build fair, empathetic communities and create positive change in society while deepening their spiritual lives.

How does Islam help Muslims to make moral decisions? What is the impact?

Islam, the third Abrahamic religion, guides moral choices through beliefs in Allah, angels, and the Prophet Muhammad. The Five Pillars promote ethical living and spiritual growth. Islamophobia presents social challenges for Muslims today, highlighting the need for compassion, understanding, and peace in both individual behaviour and wider society.

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How does Judaism help Jewish people to make good and moral decisions? What is the impact?

The first Abrahamic religion, Judaism, guides moral decisions through beliefs in God, prophets, and covenants. These shape worship, actions, and views on life after death. Ongoing antisemitism challenges Jewish communities, influencing their sense of security, social interactions, and ethical choices in today's complex world.

Who are you and what makes you a responsible citizen at Woodhey?

We begin our RE journey by reflecting on who and what makes our identity and how we can embody British values to become conscientious citizens at school and beyond.

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