

Year 7, 8 & 9

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## **We Value:**

In our subject we value every opportunity in which students get to develop their understanding of religious belief and spirituality. As students study RS, they encounter different societies and cultures, taking their lives beyond the classroom door and experiencing the wider world. Students develop a real insight into what it means to be religious, have faith and follow a religious order in the diverse society of Chessington and the wider global society.

## **We offer these Opportunities:**

In our subject you will have opportunities such as out of classroom learning, including trips to places of worship such as a Hindu Mandir, a Buddhist Temple and a Christian Church. You will also be able to join our cross curricular club with catering which allows us to cook some authentic religious foods such as marzipan and Karah Parshard. You will broaden your horizons by taking part in worldwide learning, opening up our experiences in terms of life beyond the multi faith society of Chessington.

In **Year 7** students are introduced to religion through the study of Big Questions which explores the origin of faith and belief whilst tackling those big questions regarding the meaning of life. Students also begin to explore the main religious founders such as Jesus, The Prophet Muhammed and The Buddha, whilst considering the importance of religious belief and practice and how this is expressed through religious art.

In **Year 8** you will explore the different religious festivals by evaluating the meaning and practice behind each celebration and its significance to religious life. Students will also be given opportunities to study the different religious rituals and their importance to being a religious person. We also investigate the life of Jesus and the importance of the Easter story to Christians today.

In **Year 9** students move on and research the New Age religious traditions within the global community and reflect upon how belief, practice and spirituality plays an important role in the life of the believer. You are given the opportunity to explore the main philosophical concepts regarding the existence of God through the various religious theories offered by the works of Irenaeus and Aquinas. Students also gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be ethical and explore religious answers to ethical dilemmas.