



Philosophy & Religious Studies

How is it taught at Woodhouse Grove?

The subject of Philosophy & Religious Studies is a vast one. There are many different beliefs and approaches to the question of our existence and whether there is a 'God' or 'Ultimate Reality'. At Woodhouse Grove we think that the most interesting way to explore these ideas is through gaining an understanding of the key teachings and beliefs of the world's major religions in order to stimulate discussion and debate about the interpretation and relevance of them to life in the modern world.

Whilst we feel that it is important to for students to be given a grounding in the school's own Christian tradition and ethos by looking at the life and work of Jesus (Year 7), we also provide an introduction to the major world religions, their beliefs and practices (Year 8). This is followed up by grounding in philosophical enquiry and ethics (Year 9), which naturally enables the student to progress from KS3 to GCSE and A level studies. At **GCSE students follow the AQA Religious Studies Syllabus B**: The units covered in Year 10 are Judaism & Christianity (beliefs, teachings and practices). The units covered in Year 11 examine ethical and philosophical approaches to life, the existence of God and revelation, peace and conflict, crime and punishment.

Philosophy & Religious Studies at the Grove

Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics are not just fascinating areas of study in their own right; they provide students with an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world around them that will last them a lifetime. Not only this, they will have an opportunity to develop a number of important skills that will serve them well in many walks of life.

These include:

- Critical thinking skills
- Persuasive writing skills
- The ability to communicate effectively in debate
- The ability to analyse and evaluate your own arguments and the arguments of others.

If Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics are followed through to GCSE and A Level, you can be assured of achieving a qualification that is highly regarded by Universities all over the country.

STAFFING

Philosophy and RS is currently delivered by Mr Robb (BA), Mr Jennings (BA, MA) and Miss Holloway (BA).

TIMETABLING

The academic timetable works across a two-week cycle. Within that cycle Y7 , Y8 and Y9 receive 3 x 55 minute lessons, and GCSE and A-level classes each receive 6 x 55 minute lessons, which we believe is an excellent provision that enables us to study the subject in both depth and breadth.

If you have any further questions about the subject please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

“ Atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning. ”
C.S.Lewis