

Year 8 RE/Citizenship overview and rationale

The curriculum starts with examining whether Buddhism is a religion or not to build on previous work surrounding the importance of freedom of choice. The theme of suffering and humanity is developed to help students link back to Year 7.

Linking in with PSHE work the module of crime is used to promote the theme of social responsibility and awareness of the implications of breaking the law. The themes from the first two modules are then used as the catalyst for the Islam unit whereby promoting understanding of faith alongside implications of hate crime enforce the values of tolerance and understanding.

The focus switches to political awareness as students have covered related themes in History at this time. As students are becoming more mature and aware of political concepts this module aims to ensure that students are able to frame logical, cohesive and structured political arguments whilst respecting the differing views of others.

The final module uses social, political and religious themes of the year to combine into using knowledge from the year to develop arguments and taking responsibility and playing an active role in positive change.

HALF TERM	YEAR 8
1	<p style="text-align: center;">BUDDHISM KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Lesson one must be setting homework project) • Is Buddhism a religion? • What is the Buddha's story? • The Noble Eightfold path • The concept of Karma • Becoming a Buddhist Monk • Buddhism recall
2	<p style="text-align: center;">CRIME KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What causes criminal behaviour? • What is crime like in our local area? • What are the repercussions of crime? • Civil or criminal offence? • What happens to someone who is arrested • Privacy Vs protection
3	<p style="text-align: center;">ISLAM KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do Muslims believe? • Life as a Muslim • What is Islamophobia?
4	<p style="text-align: center;">VOTING KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we vote? • How should we run the country? • What are the issues that matter? • The campaigns for voting equality
5	<p style="text-align: center;">POLITICAL SYSTEMS AND BUDGETS KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding political terminology • What are the core beliefs of the main parties? • Would you make a good MP? • How should the government spend our money?
6	<p style="text-align: center;">HOW RELIGION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE KEY QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religion and poverty • Religion and charity • Championing a cause • Which religious leader made the greatest contribution?