

Year 7 Theology and Philosophy

Our intent is to engage, inspire, challenge and encourage our students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to attempt to formulate answers to life's 'Ultimate Questions'. Theology and Philosophy enables students to engage in a systematic inquiry into deep and often searching questions about their own existence and purpose, faiths and beliefs, as well as appraise the beliefs, faiths and worldviews of others regarding pertinent contemporary philosophical and moral issues. In Year 7, students will be able to deepen their understanding of the fundamental theological insights encountered and taught by two of the three monotheistic Abrahamic religions - Judaism and Christianity - and make links between the beliefs, practices and value systems of these monotheistic faiths alongside humanist/atheist world views. The Theology and Philosophy Curriculum develops responsibility and respect for all aspects of diversity, whether it be social, cultural or religious/non-religious, and prepares students well for life in contemporary British society. All theological learning is grouped in three units: Fundamental Christian Beliefs (A People of Community), Ancient Hebrew History and Jewish Covenant Living Today (A People of Covenant Trust), and Sacramental Christian Practices (A People of the New Covenant). Year 7 learning themes are focused on building up subject-specific knowledge required for Key Stage 4 and beyond, deepening the knowledge acquired in previous Key Stages as well as empowering those students who might have gaps in their knowledge. Key questions are based on Believing, Expressing, and Living.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:

Theology and Philosophy aims to use low-stake quizzing, various means of feedback, collaboration, and student-centred resources to close gaps that our students have from previous Key Stages and to further enrich knowledge.

Retrieval Practice	Retrieval Practice is evident through starter and plenary tasks to link prior learning and current learning, as well as in Retrieval Knowledge Organisers by way of examination preparation.
Elaboration	Table Team Challenges allow for incremental levels of knowledge to be secured and encourage enthusiastic, collaborative learners.
Language for Learning	We monitor student's subject-specific vocabulary through 'Language for Learning Word Decoding' etymology/morphology exercises, and we embed literacy and reading into every learning theme, building opportunities for extended writing and enabling students to fully explore complex theological and philosophical systems and ideas that evolve from them. Reading homework is also used to develop subject specific vocabulary.
Concrete Examples	Concrete examples in the form of 'Language for Learning Reading Homework' extend and deepen knowledge acquired within the classroom.
"Becoming the Examiner"	Post-examination exercises enable students to review their examination papers alongside sample answers and mark schemes in order to improve their examination script in green ink; and students are aware that, even if top marks have been awarded, there is always room for a furthering of knowledge.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	Christian Belief: A People of Community	Christian Belief: A People of Community	Hebrew History: A People of Covenant Trust	Hebrew History: A People of Covenant Trust	Christian Practice: A People of the New Covenant	Christian Practice: A People of the New Covenant

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Theology and Philosophy: theos (Θεός), logos (λόγος) and philia (φιλία), sophia (σοφία) - The Idea of Diverse Community and a Lived Sense of Belonging - The Church Community: The 'ekklesia' (ἐκκλησία) gathered in the 'domus Domini' - The Christian Community Story of the Bible: ta biblia (τὰ βιβλία) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation: The Beginning of Human Community in 'Imago Dei' and Stewardship of Creation - God, 'Creatio ex nihilo', and Science - Theism (Θεός), Atheism (α-Θεός), Agnosticism (αγνώσις), and the Scientific Theories of Big Bang and Evolution - Divine Community: The Mystery of the Triune God: Monotheism and 'trinitas'/'trinus' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - History and origins: Jewish God of Love, The Torah, the Community and their Land - Delightful Garden, the Edenic Covenant and the Fall of Man - Shabbat as a Sign of the Covenant - Evil and "No More Destruction": The Noahic Covenant and Kashrut Dietary Laws with Animal Rights Issues - The Father of a Nation: The Abrahamic Covenant of Canaan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An everlasting Covenant: The Abrahamic Covenant of 'Brit Milah' (מִילָה בְרִית) and Jewish Circumcision Initiation Today - The Mosaic Covenant: From Slavery to Freedom (Passover and the Seder Meal) - The Covenant of Sinai: The Decalogue - Keeping the Covenant in Jewish Contemporary Daily Life and Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Prayerful People: The "Our Father" - Ritual, Sign, and 'Sacramentum': Christian Initiation - The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Cleansing of Original Sin (which restores eternal life to mankind) - Child and Believers' (Adult) Baptism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Sacrament of Confirmation - Origins of the Holy Eucharist - εὐχαριστία (the Seder Meal and the Last Supper) - The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist Today and the Doctrine of Transubstantiation
Assessment	- Mid-unit mini exam	- End-of-unit exam	- Mid-unit mini exam	- End-of-unit exam	- Mid-unit mini exam	- End-of-unit exam
CEIAG (Careers that are linked to that topic)	Teaching Professions, Medical and Caring Professions, Law and the Police Service, Community Liaison, Welfare and Social Work, Civil Service and Ministry of Defence, Journalism, Recruitment, Counselling					