

Curriculum overview:

Religious education provokes challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God, the self and the nature of reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of the world's six main religions. RE in year 8 encourages pupils to explore about religious beliefs, values and practices in different religions. There are 2 strands in RE; pupils learn about religion (facts, religious leaders, holy books, places of worship, etc.) and they learn from Religion. RE enables pupils to reflect upon own experiences and views and provide pupils with the scope to participate in discussions and at certain times tackle controversial issues.

Pupils at Swanlea School complete a full G.C.S.E RE by the end of year 10. The course starts in year 9 and is a 2 year programme. Therefore, in order to prepare students for their G.C.S.E they are taught the relevant skills to tackle exam questions. In RE a lot of rich discussions takes place which is always facilitated by the teacher. We aim to create an environment that promotes equality, respect and high quality teaching and learning.

Homework & assessments overview:

Independent Learning Project

This will enable pupils to extend their learning about Judaism and from Judaism. This will give pupils the opportunity to carry out further independent research to enhance their learning.

Pupils complete 3 assessments during the course of the year.

Assessments are all planned towards G.C.S.E exam type questions which equips the students with the skills required at G.C.S.E level which they complete in years 9 and 10.

The 3 assessments are on:

- 1. Judaism-** Defining keywords, Ten Plagues, The Seder Meal & the 10 Commandments.
- 2. Life of Jesus-** Discussion question on whether or not Christmas has become too commercialised and lost its true meaning
- 3. Sikhism-** Explaining the main features of a Gurdwara and discussing the importance of a Sikh attending one.

Useful websites:

BBC - GCSE Bitesize - Religious Studies

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse/rs

BBC - KS3 Religious Studies

www.bbc.co.uk › Home › KS3

BBC - Schools - Religion - Judaism

www.bbc.co.uk › Schools Home › Religion

BBC - Religion: Sikhism

www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/sikhism/

Life of Jesus Christ – Religion Facts

www.religionfacts.com › Christianity › history

BBC - Religions - Christianity: Jesus

www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/history/jesus

BBC - Religion: Christianity

www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/

BBC - Learning Zone Broadband Class Clips - Video and ...

www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips

Practical tips / activities for parents to support learning at home:

- Developing oral skills by asking your child to explain and justify their opinions
- Encouraging discussion about different cultures and faiths
- Reading and reviewing class work at home after each lesson
- Using ICT creatively
- Visiting a Synagogue, Church and a Gurdwara