Subject Aim: To give pupils opportunities to develop their personal understanding and enhance their spiritual and ethical awareness

Throughout the year you will explore Religion, Ethical issues and Philosophical big questions

# TERM 1

# TERM 2

# TERM 3

# TERM 4

# TERM 5

# What makes a community?

You will start Year 8 by exploring what is needed for a community to survive and thrive. How have societies sprung up and how have they developed? How has history been recorded? Which times in life must be celebrated and why and how is it that people from the same origins diverge to believe different things.

## What makes a hero?

This unit branches into Term 3 also, we take an in depth look at the characteristics someone would need to display in order to earn the title of hero. We look at examples through history and take a special interest in female heroes whom are often overlooked. We will also compare hero to celebrity.

### What is extremism?

This unit examines the difference between extremism and terrorism and begins to looks at whether religion can be blamed for certain attacks. We will also look at key events, historic and contemporary, and examine the governments' Prevent strategy.

# Why are some life events more special than others?

This term is an in depth look at Hinduism as you will not have covered this major world faith in your work in Year 7. The unit explores their ideas about God and deities, their worship rituals, places of worship and festivals as well as looking at how Hinduism has developed over time.

# How do we know what is real?

This is a philosophy unit which spans terms 5 and 6. You will be answering brain boggling questions about our own existence. Are we just a brain in a jar? How do you know you exist? Etc. We will explore the philosophies of several key thinkers throughout history and take a special, in depth look at the work of Plato and his allegory of the cave. This work will challenge you to think about our acceptance of reality and to consider whether or not we can trust our senses.

We will also look at how the society in which we live can be shaped by the thoughts and ideas of single people. From maths, medicine, logic, philosophy and ethics.

### **ASSESSMENT**

- Most lessons will test your knowledge using a variety of activities including Knowledge Tests, retrieval activities and exam questions.
- At least one lesson within the unit will require an independent task which will gauge your progress and given whole class feedback
- For each unit, you will be given a mixture of multiple choice, vocabulary and short knowledge tests at the end.

### INDEPENDENT LEARNING

- Knowledge Organisers are expected to be used weekly to support the learning and recap of key vocabulary as the course progresses.
- There will be opportunities to conduct your own research to support the concepts you are learning about in lessons.
- You will be provided with a list of further material to read or watch throughout the course.
- A good place to start is with the key stage three pages on bbc bitesize
- You should also try to listen to or watch the news every day so that you can keep up to date with what is going on in the world

## **ENRICHMENT**

 Students are encouraged to keep up to date with current events to support their sociological knowledge

## What Next?

