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Following the Albion Academy curriculum for Religious Education pupils in Year 8 will study two core modules of Islam and the Philosophy of Religion. Firstly, the teaching of Islam ensures that students have completed a faith study in their first three modules at the Academy: one for each of the Abrahamic Faiths. Studying the Philosophy of Religion exposes students to an environment where they will gain knowledge and understanding from a range of different perspectives and beliefs surrounding the question of the existence of God. Understanding a range of opinions and perspectives on such questions will lead to an increase in tolerance, acceptance and respect for the local and wider community and a general acceptance that we as British Citizens have the right to practice whichever religion we choose without discrimination.

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Topics covered within the Y8 Islam module: Pre-Islamic Arabia

- Prophet Muhammad and the revelation of the Quran
- The Hijrah and Conquest of Mecca
- The Final Sermon
- The Sunni and Shia Split
- Early Islamic Caliphates
- The Five Pillars of Islam
- Jihad
- Islam Today and Islamophobia

Philosophy of Religion Spring Term

Topics covered within the Y8 Philosophy of Religion module:

- Characteristics of the God of Classical Theism
- Atheism, Theism, and Agnosticism
- The Design Argument and its criticisms
- The First Cause Argument and its criticisms
- The Problem of Evil
- Theodicies
- Religious Experience and its criticisms

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Topics covered within the Y8 Atheism module:

- The origins of Atheism
- Plato's Cave
- The Enlightenment Period
- Evolution
- · Ethics of not having Religion or God
- Friedrich Nietzsche
- Militant Atheism

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Topics covered within the Y8 Hinduism module:

- The origins of the Hindu Faith
- The Caste System
- The Vedic Period
- The Upanishads
- Alexander the Great
- Revelation and the Sharing of Knowledge

Assessment:

Students in Y8 will continue to be assessed using both formative and summative methods. Students will be assessed through 'Big Writes' and end of unit tasks. This will assess students' knowledge and understanding and develop students' critical evaluation skills. Students will also be assessed via the mid-year assessment and end of year assessment which will include knowledge, describe and explanation questions.

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<u>Useful resources for supporting your child at home:</u>

- Seneca Learning Seneca Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
- BBC Bitesize- KS3 Religious Education Religious Education BBC Bitesize
- BBC Teach Videos Free primary and secondary school teaching resources BBC Teach
- Oak National Academy- KS3 Religious Education Religious Education lessons for Key Stage 3 students Oak National Academy (thenational.academy)
- Trips to local religious sites: places of worship, cathedrals, monasteries, museums