



RELIGIOUS STUDIES - YEAR 8

Should religious buildings be sold to feed the starving?

This investigation enables students to learn in depth about the purposes and types of worship. The key question makes students think about why places of worship exist and how they help religious communities. Students can answer whichever way they like, but balanced arguments and information are given in this unit as we explore the function of worship in the lives of religious communities.

Does religion help you live morally?

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about being good and living well in society.

How could religious communities do more to reduce racism and prejudice?

This investigation encourages pupils to learn about religion and beliefs/ worldviews, racism and prejudice in challenging ways that promote wellbeing of all in our richly plural communities. It recognises the internal diversity of all religious communities. It aims to teach students that racism is dangerous and unjust and seeks to teach students about tolerance and intolerance. It aspires to promote mutual understanding, respect, and harmony between people with very different experiences.

Can happiness overcome suffering?

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about their view of suffering, and how people within a religion or world view understand and live with suffering in the world around them. We then look at the significance of happiness and how 'a good life' can remove suffering.

Should non-religious people celebrate religious festivals?

This investigation enables students to study the origins and religious aspects of festivals in doing so, question whether secular believers should celebrate them. Students will also look at the importance and value of these festivals and explore whether the non-religious aspects devalue the festival.

How do people express their spiritual belief through the arts?

This investigation enables students to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about the concepts of worship, meditation and celebration, considering a diverse range of views about questions of expression and meaning in relation to spirituality and faith. Students will be enabled to think about their own experiences and views in relation to questions of spirituality in music and visual art, drawing on their study of Christianity and other religions. They will explore religious and spiritual arts through a range of media, discussing the significance of creative expression in different faith communities. They will be able to respond personally to the artwork they encounter.

