

## SUBJECT INTENT STATEMENT

The Philosophy and Religion curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire students; to create opportunities for developing worldviews literacy and using a multidisciplinary approach to explore ways of thinking and ways of being. **It is the study of what it is to be human.** Philosophy and Religion prepares students for all aspects of life – academically, culturally and personally.

Philosophy and Religion is an academically rigorous and challenging subject in which we aim to **examine ways of thinking and explore ways of being.**

We all have a worldview (secular or religious) – a way of understanding the world, what is real and what is right or wrong. No-one stands 'nowhere' – worldviews are relevant to everyone. If we are to understand ourselves and each other – we must understand worldviews.

It is fundamentally important that all students have the opportunity to become **Worldviews Literate**;

- to understand how worldviews are constructed
- to understand that worldviews are affected by where, when and who you are
- to understand that worldviews are diverse and fluid
- to understand that worldviews, both shape and, are shaped by the cultures in which they exist.

We use the **4 Concepts** approach to undertake a comparative study of worldviews:

**Belief, Authority, Expression of Belief and Impact of Belief.**

We explore worldviews through a **Multidisciplinary Approach** in which we develop the skills of **philosophy** (*questions about knowing*), **theology** (*questions about God*), and the **social sciences** (*examining the lived experience of worldviews*) in our study of religious and secular worldviews.

We develop our understanding of worldviews through our **Threshold Concepts** which spiral throughout the curriculum:

1. **Community, Change and Diversity** – changing worldviews
2. **Words and Beyond** – ways of expressing truths and beliefs
3. **A Good Life** – ways of understanding of what and how to live
4. **Making sense of Life's Experiences** – exploring being
5. **Influence, Community, Culture and Power** – things that impact worldviews
6. **The Big Picture** – the nature of reality, truth and existence – who we are/why we are