



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

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 @MagnaAcademy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

**RE: Theology and Ethics Curriculum**

I am delighted to inform you that following an extensive curriculum review and planning process we will be launching a brand new Theology and Ethics curriculum to all Key Stage 3 students from September as an integral part of our varied and ambitious curriculum.

For students to thrive in an increasingly complex and diverse world, they require the knowledge of and respect for a range of religions and worldviews. An effective Theology and Ethics curriculum will enable our students to develop the attributes they need to prepare them for life and work as socially, morally responsible and inclusive citizens in modern day Britain.

The Theology and Ethics curriculum is designed to enhance our students' understanding of the issues we face in an increasingly globalised community and the factors influencing the ways others respond to them. To achieve this, our students will study and understand the core principles held in the major world faiths of Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Judaism. In addition, they will also study non-religious worldviews such as Humanism, which have shaped human beings' sense of identity, belonging, values and commitments throughout history. The Theology and Ethics curriculum aims to actively promote fundamental British values, as well as developing our students' critical thinking and independence skills by challenging them to approach some of the big questions about the purpose of humanity philosophically.

As you will be aware, the academy year is broken into six parts known as 'units'. Over the course of the year, all Key Stage 3 students will study two units of Theology and Ethics on a rotational timetable, alongside Music and Performing Arts. Each student will receive a minimum of 55 minutes of Theology and Ethics content each lesson, over the course of nine lessons per unit. All resources are centrally planned and shared for a high quality and consistent delivery in line with the statutory Department for Education (DfE) objectives and locally agreed syllabus by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council.

As per the BCP locally agreed syllabus, the aims of our Theology and Ethics curriculum will ensure all of our students:

- Know about and understand a range of religious and worldviews.
- Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religious and non-religious worldviews.

To help students develop and apply a deeper understanding of the content covered they will receive a work booklet to support them through each lesson. At the end of each unit, students will complete an assessment to determine their progress towards the intended learning outcomes and support their literacy development.

In our detailed planning and resourcing we take into consideration the personal needs and experiences of all stakeholders to ensure that everyone will benefit from this new and exciting addition to our curriculum. To further assist us with our provision, please do not hesitate to contact us at your earliest possible convenience, using the online enquiry service, if you have any concerns regarding our Theology and Ethics curriculum intentions. We are very excited about the intended impact we believe this curriculum will have on the lives of our students and the community in which they belong.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

*J Hollings*

Miss J Hollings  
Teacher in charge of Philosophy and Ethics