

Year 8 Curriculum Overview 2026-2027

Subject: RE

Term	Knowledge & Understanding			Literacy Key Vocabulary	Employability Skills	Assessment Opportunities
	Composites	Components [KEY concepts]	Formal Retrieval			
HT1: Creation and Covenant	Why do Catholics believe we need God's law and grace to live a good life?	Original sin and personal sin, the Fall (Genesis 3) Freedom and responsibility 'Covenant', decalogue and greatest commandment Conscience Baptism, links to the Fall.	Throughout all units, students will retrieve by: Weekly low-stakes quizzes revisiting key vocabulary and concepts from HT1–HT6 and key Year 7 foundations (e.g. Trinity, Incarnation, Eucharist, Revelation, Four Noble Truths, Five Pillars).	- The Fall - original sin - concupiscence - Sinai covenant - the Decalogue - freedom - responsibility - conscience - baptism	From all units, students will gain the following skills: Critical thinking and evaluation – analysing questions about suffering, evil, resurrection, prophecy and dialogue; weighing different viewpoints (e.g. problem of evil, interreligious dialogue).	Formative assessment – 5 mark question on the Sinai Covenant. Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key concepts of this unit.
HT2: Prophecy and Promise	How do the prophets point to Christ and his mission?	The pattern of prophetic texts in the Bible Common prophetic themes (e.g. messiah) with reference to the life and work of prophets such as Isaiah, Elijah and Amos. John the Baptist and the cycle of prophecy Baptism and the threefold office of Christ as Priest, Prophet and King	Cumulative starter questions linking prior learning (e.g. Creation and Fall →	- prophet - priest - King - messianic - Advent - Amos - Elijah - John the Baptist	Use of specialist vocabulary – confidently using theological terms accurately (e.g.	Formative assessment – 5 mark question on Christ as Priest, Prophet and King. Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key

		Prophets and Advent	problem of evil; Prophecy → Incarnation; Paschal Mystery → Resurrection and eschatology).		covenant, concupiscence, Paschal Mystery, eschatology, predestination).	concepts of this unit.
HT3: Galilee to Jerusalem	How does Jesus' ministry teach us about the Kingdom of God?	Jesus' encounters with those on the margins Parables of: (i) Kingdom growth; (ii) mercy; (iii) eschatology Miracles as Jesus' power: (i) over evil (ii) over sickness (iii) over death (iv) over nature The moral sense of scripture, Implications for encounters with those on the margins today Parables of the Kingdom and the Church The Anointing of the Sick	- Extended retrieval tasks such as short explain questions ("Explain why Catholics believe in the Resurrection") and one paragraph comparisons (e.g. Eucharist in Year 7 and Passover links in Year 8). - Knowledge organisers used for recall practice including definition drills, Bible reference recall, and key quotations	- Kingdom - moral sense of scripture - miracles - parables - Anointing of the Sick	- Communication skills – constructing clear extended written answers and participating respectfully in discussions and debates. - Making connections – linking scripture, belief, liturgy and daily life (e.g. Baptism and the Fall; Passover and Eucharist; Resurrection and funeral rites). - Respect and cultural awareness – understanding Eastern	Formative assessment – 5 mark question on the Parable of the Sheep and Goats Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key concepts of this unit.
HT4: Desert to Garden	What are Catholic attitudes towards suffering?	The suffering of Jesus and the Servant in the Fourth Servant Song (Is 52:13-53:12) The mystery of suffering and evil. OT and meaning of suffering and evil Church response to the mystery of suffering and death How the Church enters into the Paschal Mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, through its liturgy, focusing in the Triduum		- suffering servant - Passion - Suffering - Lent - fasting, almsgiving, and prayer - Triduum - Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) - problem of evil		Formative assessment – 5 mark question on Jesus' Passion. Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key concepts of this unit.

		Fasting, almsgiving and prayer The Sacrament of Penance; active (penance) and passive mortification (offering up).	(e.g. 1 Cor 15, Genesis 3, Nicene Creed).		Catholic traditions and Islamic beliefs and practices with sensitivity and maturity.	
HT5: To the ends of the Earth	What are Catholic attitudes towards eschatology?	Accounts of the resurrection in scripture Resurrection as the central truth of the Christian faith (1 Cor 15:1-58) The empty tomb and resurrection of the body Resurrection of Jesus, life after death, the four last things. A Catholic funeral rite Baptism and salvation; 'baptism of desire'.		• Resurrection • death • judgement • heaven • hell • purgatory • funeral rite • requiem		Formative assessment – 5 mark question on the Last Four Things (Judgement, Heaven, Hell, Purgatory) Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key concepts of this unit.
HT6: Dialogue and Encounter	<u>Dialogue:</u> What other types of Catholics exist? <u>Encounter:</u> What are the beliefs and practices of Islam?	<u>Dialogue:</u> The concentric circles model of dialogue (Ecclesiam Suam) and how the Catholic Church engages with different religions and worldviews, including Eastern Catholic Churches. Interreligious dialogue – its purpose, benefits, and challenges, and how different beliefs and traditions influence worship, art and community life.		<u>Dialogue</u> • Ecclesiam Suam • dialogue • proclamation • Second Vatican Council • eastern Catholic churches • patrimony • liturgical traditions and rites		Formative assessment – 5 mark question on the Five Pillars of Islam. Summative assessment – 20 mark assessment which will assess key concepts of this unit.

		<u>Encounter:</u> Beliefs: Muslims believe in the Six Articles of Faith: belief in Allah, angels (including Jibreel), holy books (including the Qur'an), prophets (including Muhammad), the Day of Judgement, and predestination. Practices: Muslims follow the Five Pillars of Islam – Shahadah (faith), Salah (prayer), Zakah (charity), Sawm (fasting during Ramadan), and Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).		<u>Encounter:</u> • Islam • Muslim • Arabic • Allah • Qur'an • Muhammad • Predestination • Shahadah • Salah • Zakat • Sawm • Hajj		An overall end of year grade will be calculated using the average score students scored across the 6 summative assessments. Therefore, their overall RE grade will be a score out of 120 converted into a percentage.
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