



GOSFORD HILL
SCHOOL

Religion, Philosophy & Ethics Department



GOSFORD HILL
SCHOOL

Our vision and aims (Intent):

- Exploring Big Questions: We aim to support students in exploring fundamental questions about belief, morality, identity, and meaning, encouraging thoughtful reflection on both religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Inclusive Ambition: Our curriculum is ambitious and inclusive for all, designed to ensure that students from all backgrounds and faith perspectives (including those with no religious belief) can access a rich and challenging RPE education. We foster a safe environment where every student feels empowered to share their ideas while developing deep respect for the beliefs of others.
- Philosophical Literacy: We intend to introduce students to the specialist language of religion, spirituality, philosophy, and ethics, enabling them to navigate complex global conversations.
- Spiritual and Moral Growth: Our curriculum plays a key role in developing students' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) awareness, preparing them for the ethical challenges of the modern world.



GOSFORD HILL
SCHOOL

Our approach to teaching (Implementation):

- Critical Inquiry: We use an enquiry-based approach to teaching, where students are encouraged to compare, contrast, and critically analyse diverse perspectives and truth claims.
- Sequenced Knowledge: The curriculum is logically sequenced to build a substantive understanding of the main beliefs and practices of world religions, alongside other ethical theories and philosophical arguments.
- Evidence-Based Retrieval: In line with school-wide practice, we use retrieval tasks to ensure core concepts and religious terminology are embedded in students' long-term memory.
- Contemporary Relevance: We bring the subject to life by linking ancient traditions and philosophical theories to modern-day moral dilemmas and global events.



GOSFORD HILL
SCHOOL

How we measure success (Impact):

- Reflective Thinkers: Students demonstrate success through their ability to reflect on their own ideas and the values of others which will help them with their emotional and social intelligence
- Tolerance and Respect: A key measure of our success is the atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance within the classroom, reflecting students' readiness to live in a diverse, multicultural society.
- Academic Achievement: Our learners show strong progress in their ability to use specialist vocabulary and structured writing to express philosophical and ethical judgements.
- Informed Citizens: The ultimate impact is seen in students who leave school as informed, empathetic, and responsible citizens, equipped to engage thoughtfully with religious and non religious people and the "big questions" of life.