

## Holy Family Sixth Form – Core RE Curriculum Intent

### What is it?

Core RE is a curriculum subject taught once a week to all Sixth Form students. It is run by teachers in the RE Team and requires students to attend, complete tasks in a booklet, and participate in discussion. It is a way supporting the Catholic ethos of our Sixth Form, but also given students an hour of reflection, spirituality, and learning for the sake of learning.

### Our Vision

At Holy Family Sixth Form, Core RE exists to **form articulate, reflective, compassionate young adults** who can engage critically with religious, ethical and philosophical questions. Rooted in the Gospel and the *ASPIRE* values, our curriculum nurtures students' intellectual, spiritual, and moral development so they can become adults who contribute positively to society.

### Purpose of Core RE

Core RE provides all students with:

- A **broad understanding of religion and belief** in the modern world.
- The opportunity to **reflect on their identity, purpose, and moral responsibility**.
- The ability to explore faith, ethics and justice through a Catholic lens.
- The development of **religious literacy**, enabling students to understand, interpret and discuss religious language, symbols, teachings and worldviews.

### What We Intend Students to Learn

By the end of Sixth Form, students will:

1. **Engage with big questions** about meaning, purpose, ethics, human dignity, and contemporary moral issues.
2. **Understand key Catholic teachings**, alongside other Christian traditions and major worldviews, developing an informed perspective on faith in society.
3. **Analyse and critique arguments**, forming reasoned, evidence-based viewpoints.
4. **Apply ethical frameworks** to real-world moral dilemmas, developing moral reasoning and discernment.
5. **Reflect on vocation**, leadership, service and their role in the common good.
6. **Demonstrate respect, dialogue and empathy**, contributing to a culture of inclusivity, justice and respect within the school community.

### Our Curriculum Design

Core RE is designed to be:

- **Relevant** – exploring issues such as personal identity, social justice, human rights, bioethics, relationships, and the role of religion in public life.
- **Catholic in Character** – rooted in Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and the values of service, participation, integrity and respect.

- **Discussion-rich** – fostering oracy, debate, and reflective thinking.
- **Formational** – encouraging spiritual growth, encounter, and opportunities for service (e.g., charity weeks, retreats, Sixth Form leadership).

### How Core RE Prepares Students for Life Beyond Sixth Form

Our intent is that students leave Holy Family as:

- **Ethically aware citizens** who can navigate complex moral landscapes.
- **Respectful and informed individuals** able to engage with diverse beliefs.
- **Thoughtful leaders** equipped to serve their communities.
- **Confident young adults** who can articulate their values and make principled decisions.

Core RE supports progression to university, apprenticeships and employment by building **critical thinking, communication, empathy, cultural awareness, and moral reasoning**—skills highly valued in higher education and the workplace.

### What will you learn?

Cycle A (from Sept 2026)	Cycle B (from Sept 2027)
<p><b>Autumn 1: Crime and Punishment</b> <i>An exploration of religious and secular teachings on crime, justice and punishment</i></p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Festivals in World Faith</b> <i>A comparison between festivals and celebrations in global faith communities, and how they work to “remember” and “celebrate”</i></p> <p><b>Spring 1: Global Issues</b> <i>Discussions of contemporary and emerging issues in global society, and how faith groups can respond</i></p> <p><b>Spring 2: Suffering and Hope</b> <i>Religious responses to suffering in society, and the responses of religious groups to these issues</i></p> <p><b>Summer 1: Life After Death</b> <i>An exploration of the justifications for, and impacts of belief in life after death in Catholicism and wider worlds of faith.</i></p> <p><b>Summer 2: Science and Religion</b> <i>A discussion of the intersection of science and religion, looking at how advancements in</i></p>	<p><b>Autumn 1: Arguments for the Existence of God</b> <i>Exploration of why people hold belief in God, or gods, and the challenges that people have to this.</i></p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Pilgrimage:</b> <i>A study of pilgrimage as a practice across world faiths and the importance of it to believers.</i></p> <p><b>Spring 1: War, Peace, and Conflict</b> <i>A discussion of the role of peace-making, and war in society and the impact that it has on communities.</i></p> <p><b>Spring 2: Who is Jesus? (John’s Gospel)</b> <i>A deep-dive into John’s Gospel and what it teaches us about the nature of Jesus Christ</i></p> <p><b>Summer 1: Philosophy from the Ancient to the Modern World</b> <i>A timeline of the history of Western Philosophy and the impact it has had on society</i></p> <p><b>Summer 2: Science and Religion</b> <i>A discussion of the intersection of science and religion, looking at how advancements in technologies and knowledge of the world challenges traditional worldviews.</i></p>

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