In accordance with the new KS3 United Learning Curriculum for RS it is compulsory that Islam and the Philosophy of Religion are taught in Y8. Firstly, the teaching of Islam ensures that students have completed a faith study in their first three modules at the Academy; one for each of the Abrahamic Faiths. Studying the Philosophy of Religion exposes students to an environment where they will gain knowledge and understanding from a range of different perspectives and beliefs surrounding the question of the existence of God. Understanding a range of opinions and perspectives on such questions will lead to an increase in tolerance, acceptance and respect for the local and wider community and a general acceptance that we as British Citizens have the right to practice whichever religion we choose without discrimination.

Topics covered within the Y8 Islam module:

- 1- Pre-Islamic Arabia
- 2- Prophet Muhammad and the Qur'an
- Prophet Muhammad, The Hijrah and Conquest of Mecca
- 4- The Final Sermon
- 5- Sunni and Shia Islam
- 6- The Five Pillars of Islam

Assessment:

Students in Y8 will continue to be assessed using both formative and summative methods. The Academy wide 'Big Write' programme will assess students' knowledge and understanding and develop students' critical evaluation skills. Students will also be assessed via the United Learning mid-year and end of year assessments. The 'Big Write' question that students will be asked is: 'Hajj is the most significant pillar of Islam' evaluate.

Topics covered within the Y8 Philosophy of Religion module:

- 1- Who is God?
- 2- Theism, Atheism and Agnosticism
- 3- The First Cause Argument and Criticisms
- 4- The Design Argument and Criticisms
- 5- The Cosmological Argument and Criticisms
- 6- The Teleological Argument and Criticisms

Assessment:

Students in Y8 will continue to be assessed using both formative and summative methods. The Academy wide 'Big Write' programme will assess students' knowledge and understanding and develop students' critical evaluation skills. Students will also be assessed via the United Learning mid-year and end of year assessments. The 'Big Write' question that students will be asked is: 'billions of people follow a religion, therefore God must exist' evaluate.

Useful resources for supporting your child at home:

- Y8 RS Knowledge Organiser Knowledge Organisers (salfordcity-academy.org)
- Seneca Learning Seneca Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
- BBC Bitesize- KS3 Religious Studies Religious Studies BBC Bitesize
- BBC Teach Videos Free primary and secondary school teaching resources BBC Teach
- Oak National Academy- KS3 Religious Studies Religious Education lessons for Key Stage 3 students Oak National Academy (thenational.academy)
- Trips to local religious sites: places of worship, cathedrals, monasteries, museums