Overview Document 2026/27	Curriculum Area: RS	Year Group: 8
	Personnel Responsible: KHE	Quality Assured by: AME

Cycle	Topic/Unit Title – *Big Question*	Content Coverage	Skill development and links to other areas of this subject's curriculum
1/2	**What Is the Value of Life?**	This cycle will begin by exploring Christian accounts in Genesis for the creation of the world and humans. This will lead on to considering the importance and value of human life. Students will move on to explore if science and religion can be harmonised and the role of religious believers working towards a greener future. The cycle then moves to an exploration of religious ceremonies that show the value of life and initiation into religious life from Christianity, Islam and Sikhi. To give students a breadth of learning, the end of the cycle will explore the value of life in Ancient Egypt and the rituals performed to prepare people for life after death.	Students will need to recall and build on knowledge from Year 7 concerning key religious beliefs in Christianity; Islam and Sikhism. They will be able to use these beliefs to consider how they are shown in the lives of believers and how it impacts their choices. Students will continue to develop their written evaluation and analysis by engaging with religious texts and viewpoints. They will also develop their social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness and understanding by appreciating the different views of others and the meaning of religion in their life. These cycles will make foundations for students to build upon in Year 9 when considering the attributes of God and the key practices in different religions.
3/4	**What Happens When We Die?**	Following on from exploring the importance of life, this cycle will explore beliefs concerning life after death. It begins with exploring the idea of judgement and religious beliefs about judgement from God. Students will explore the Christian idea of heaven and hell; Muslim beliefs about judgement and the concept of reincarnation in Dharmic religions. Students will be able to explore the accounts of people who believe they have been reincarnated and lived a previous life. Students will also consider non-religious views from Humanists and consider how life is celebrated and remembered.	