Overview Document 2026/27	Curriculum Area: RS	Year Group: 9
	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	**Can a Loving God Exist?**	In this cycle students will explore the problem of evil, that asks how and why a loving God would allow evil to exist? The cycle will begin by exploring and evaluating philosophical arguments for the existence of God and claims of religious experience. Theodicies from key philosophers will be assessed to see if they can successfully reconcile God and evil. Students will explore other examples put forward such as religious experience, suffering in Dharmic faiths and philosophical argument surrounding moral decision making.	This cycle will build upon student's knowledge of key Christian beliefs from Year 7 and 8, as well as their understanding of ideas concerning judgement and the afterlife. Students will also need to recall knowledge from Year 7 and 8 about Buddhism, including the idea of karma and the samsara cycle. This unit aims to develop student's philosophical thinking and critical analysis skills.
3/4	**How Do People Put Faith Into Action?**	This unit will consider how key religious beliefs are shown and put into practice in the lives of those who follow them. Students will explore religious practices such as worship, prayer; mission and evangelism. They will also consider the role and importance of pilgrimage for Sikhs and Muslims. The cycle will lead to looking at modern day examples of people in the local Birmingham area who put their faith into action in our local communities.	Students will need to draw upon the key religious beliefs from Christianity, Islam and Sikhism from Year 7 and Year 8. They will need to use these as a foundation to apply religious practices and understand the key beliefs that underpin the actions of religious believers. This will further develop student's written technique in terms of including and referencing religious sources of authority.