

Philosophy, Ethics and Religion (PER)

The aim of PER at Ousedale School is to provide students with a respect for faiths and cultures beyond Christianity whilst also having an understanding of not only Christianity, but the six world religions. We follow the Milton Keynes agreed syllabus for Religious Education with a focus on Christianity. The law requires every student to have the provision of RE whilst in full time education with Christianity as the focal point as Christianity has shaped our country and the way we think.

Key Stage 3

The KS3 curriculum focuses mainly on topics rather than individual religions throughout Years 7 and 8. It is through these topics that philosophies, ethics and religions are studied. The curriculum comprises of topics that are relevant to students in their lives and is designed to engage and develop individual thought whilst understanding the views of others. Topics include Belonging, Believing, Behaving, Equality and Justice, Humanism, Evil and suffering and religious expression. Students in Year 9 start the GCSE Edexcel Religion and Ethics course with a focus on Christianity.

Key Stage 4

The GCSE course starts in year 9 and is continued in Years 10 and 11. Students half way through Year 10 will start the second part of the GCSE, Religion, peace and conflict with a focus on Islam enabling students to sit the full course at the end of Year 11. It is important to ensure students are equipped to think critically around ethical issues studied and how religious belief may be applicable to them or their surrounding community. The GCSE is designed to help aid students to think about their own opinion critically whilst evaluating a balanced argument and critically thinking about other views.

Key Stage 5

Years 12 and 13 study the OCR Philosophy and Ethics course focussing on three sections: Philosophy of Religion, Religious Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought. Each section is examined at the end of Year 13 and makes up a third of the overall course.