Topic Overview

Faculty/Subject: **RS**

Year Group: **8**

Topic: **Why might the existence of evil & suffering be a problem for theists?**

What BIG IDEAS will you cover in this topic?

The concepts of suffering and guidance

Using religious texts as a way of interpreting and responding to real world challenges

What other key concepts, knowledge and skills will you learn in this topic?

Skills:
Making explicit reference to religious ideas/teachings

Applying religious ideas/teachings
(how do these teachings influence believers?)

Knowledge:
Daoism, detachment, 4 Noble Truths
Gethsemane, Teleology, Divine Omnipotence

What important prior knowledge will you use from your prior learning?

Beliefs and values from Christianity and Buddhism

Where does this topic fit into the curriculum plan for this subject?

It begins year 8 by focusing on core skills needed for RS (engagement with teaching and texts) and aims to both deepen understanding, as well as challenge misconceptions, by showing that religious teachings have utility and value - even to the uninitiated.

It presents religious ideas as a lens through which to view problems that students might well be familiar with, and encourages deeper thinking and reflection on those problems.

It also provides a deeper look at some of the key episodes from Christian theology which will be revisited in the later topic on Christianity, as well as deepening the understanding offered in the Year 7 overview of world religions.

Lastly, by focusing on similarity and contradistinction, it encourages students to see that many religious teachings resemble each other and tries to suggest that the values and ideas of religions - by virtue of their similarity - repeatedly point to some form of higher power, be that divinity or morality, which offers guidance and solace in a challenging and chaotic world.

Assessment:
How and when will you be assessed on this topic?
What will the success criteria be?

End of Unit Test- knowledge based
Assessment-skills questions
Demonstrate "excellent knowledge and understanding of religion and belief" including beliefs, practices and sources of authority.

Demonstrate the ability to explain and engage with ultimate questions using accurate paragraphing and using the correct terminology and spelling of key words.
To be able to identify and describe at least one religious belief and its effects on followers.

Demonstrating a secure knowledge of the key facts about following topics

- Why might the existence of evil and suffering be a problem for theists?
- Central beliefs of Christianity

These facts relate to the what and why of key religious and non-religious practices in addition key knowledge will be demonstrated through results of Key Facts Checks at the end of each unit.

What is the key vocabulary that you will need to know in this topic?

Suffering
Guidance
Predestination
Balance
Dokkodo
Kata
Balance
Focus
Meditation
Submission

What is the structure of learning/lessons in this topic?

Lesson 1. How do we find guidance?
Lesson 2. What causes suffering?
Lesson 3. Answers to suffering (Dokkodo)
Lesson 4. How do we deal with suffering?
Lesson 5. Assessment
Lesson 6. Assessment DIRT/HLB - Dirt
Lesson 7. Practical Lesson