

## Key Stage 3 Curriculum – RE / PSHE

PSRE is a combined course encompassing Religious Education, Philosophy and Ethics, and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). In Year 7, pupils receive three PSRE lessons per week, while Year 8 have one and Year 9 have two.

Year 7 pupils are taught in their mixed-ability tutor groups and explore the following key themes in the Religious Education component:

- **What's it all about?** An introduction to the concept, history, and significance of religion, including an overview of the six major world religions.
- **How did it all begin?** Exploring questions around how life began.
- **Life, death, and beyond!** Examining beliefs about the afterlife.
- **Hinduism: The World's Oldest Religion.** Exploring the beliefs and practices of Hinduism.

As part of the PSHE strand, pupils also study the following modules:

- **How can you build your people skills?**  
(Covering different types of relationships, friendship, bullying, and cyberbullying)
- **What is healthy living?**  
(Covering healthy eating, body image, personal safety, and the dangers of smoking)

Each PSHE module emphasises the development of **transferable skills** alongside topic-specific knowledge. Lessons frequently involve **collaborative work**, such as group discussions, and are assessed through classwork and self-reflection activities.

**Year 8 & 9** pupils are taught in sets (in agreement with the Geography and History departments). Modules/questions explored include:

RE	Year 8	Year 9
	<b>The Problem of Evil</b> - Exploring why evil exists if God is good and powerful.	<b>Medical Ethics and Moral Action</b> - Examining moral issues like euthanasia and genetic engineering.
	<b>MLK and the Moral Universe</b> - studying MLK's faith-driven fight for justice.	<b>War and Evil</b> - Investigating religious and ethical views on war and peace.
	<b>Jesus - Rebel or Revolutionary?</b> - Considering whether Jesus was a radical challenger of his time.	<b>Islam: The Five Pillars</b> - Learning the core practices and beliefs in Islam.
		<b>Religious Diversity</b> - Exploring different world religions and the importance of tolerance.
PSHE	<b>Relationships and Sex Education</b> (Covering identity, peer pressure, relationships, marriage, sex and the law).	<b>Drugs Awareness</b> (Covering the law, effects, county lines, vaping, and cancer).
		<b>Relationships and Sex Education</b> (Covering gender and sexuality, relationships and forced marriage, sexual exploitation, contraception).

In **Year 9**, pupils also have the *option* of studying Law, War and More or Philosophy for the year as one of their KS3 options.

**Contact:** Miss Singer (Curriculum Leader for RE) for questions about Religious Education ([kxs@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:kxs@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk)) or Miss Grout (Lead for PSHE) for PSHE ([oag@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:oag@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk)).