Topic Overview: Our Rights As Humans

KS3	Year 9
Disciplinary Focus:	Theology, Philosophy, Human and Social Sciences
Religion Focus:	Christianity, Islam
Religion to Encounter:	Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Sikhism
Core Question:	How free am I really?
Component Questions:	What are our basic human rights and British Values? Do we really have free will, and how does this link to questions about the existence and powers of God? How free are we really in terms of sexual expression? How free are we in terms of matters of life and death? How free are we to use our wealth as we wish? How free are we to express our religious views freely? Are men and women equally free? How free are we to move around as we choose? How free and equal are we before the law?
Core substantive knowledge:	Human Rights legislation and the UN Declaration of Human Rights, UK government's British Values. Christian beliefs about Creation and about the Fall, and ideas about Free Will. Christian and other ideas about suffering – natural and moral evil, God testing us and the example of Job. The views of different religious and non-religious groups about: sex outside of marriage, sexuality, same-sex marriage, arranged and forced marriage, divorce and contraception. The views of different religious and non-religious groups about: animal rights and the environment, abortion and euthanasia. The causes and effects of poverty; Christian, Muslim and other attitudes towards wealth, including zakat and sadaqah, the work of different charities, eg Cafod; and religious and secular ideas about whether the wealthy should use their wealth as they wish. Comparing freedom of religious expression in the UK with elsewhere – the relationship of Church and State; historical persecution of Non-Conformists and Catholics; restrictions on the hijab and the like in France; experiences under the Taliban. Traditional and modern Christian views about the roles, responsibilities and status of women compared to men; consideration of other religious views, especially Islam; examination of how much gender equality actual exists in UK society. Restrictions on freedom of movement – examination of examples of refugees and asylum

	seekers, and religious and secular the arguments for and against providing refuge. Comparing how equitably the laws works in the UK and beyond, focusing on arbitrary arrest, fair trials and miscarriages of justice and examples from the work of Amnesty International.