

## Religious Education Y6 Summer Term 2



Does faith give people a different perspective on life and death?

### Knowledge

- People's beliefs about life after death can impact their actions during their lifetimes. The belief in life after death can provide comfort and purpose.
- Most Christians believe that after their physical death, they will be taken into the presence of God and judged for their deeds. Some believe that this will happen when they die; others believe there will be a 'Day of Judgement'.
- Many Christians believe that those who have faith and commit their lives to Christ will go to Heaven whereas those who have rejected God will go to Hell.
- Islam teaches that there is Akhirah: life after death. Most Muslims believe that Allah decides when we physically die and that there will be a 'Day of Judgement' when Allah will judge their deeds.
- Most Muslims believe that those who have performed more good deeds than bad will enter Jannah. Most Muslims believe those who have performed more bad deeds than good and have not repented will be sent to Jahannam.
- Most Hindus believe that humans are in a cycle of death and rebirth called samsara. When a person dies, their atman is reborn in a different body.
- Most Hindus believe in karma. If a person has repeatedly failed to learn lessons in human form, they can be reborn as an animal. Living life according to Hindu teachings will eventually lead to moksha.
- Most Buddhists believe that all life is in a cycle of birth and death called samsara. When a living thing dies, its energy passes into another form.
- Most Buddhists believe in karma, which can lead to rebirth as a human, an animal or even a ghost or demi-god. Being born as a human is seen as an opportunity to work towards Nirvana, also known as enlightenment.
- Humanists have no belief in an afterlife so they focus on seeking happiness in this life and making the most of their lives whilst on Earth. They are concerned with human welfare and believe they have a duty to help others to lead fulfilling lives, including those alive today and future generations.



### Vocabulary

**Akhirah** = the Islamic belief in life after death

**atman** = the Hindu term for the inner self, spirit or soul

**Brahman** = in Hinduism, the one God who takes on many forms and is part of all living things

**Buddhism** = a religion based on the teachings of Buddha, not based on belief in one god

**Heaven** = a state of being eternally in the presence of God after death

**Hell** = a state of being eternally without God after death, which conjures ideas of suffering

**Hinduism** = a religion based on the belief in one god, Brahman, who is within all living things

**Humanism** = a non-religious worldview which emphasises ethics and morals rather than God

**Jannah** = a 'garden of everlasting bliss' or 'home of peace' with no sickness, pain or sadness

**Jahannam** = a place of physical and spiritual suffering after death

**karma** = the Buddhist and Hindu belief in actions in life leading to consequences for rebirth

**moksha** = leaving the cycle of samsara and becoming one with Brahman (God) for eternity

**Nirvana** = leaving the cycle of samsara by achieving realisation of the truth about life

**samsara** = a cycle of death and rebirth, a fundamental belief in Buddhism and Hinduism

