



Bottisham Village College

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

GCSE RS

ALL YEAR



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

At Bottisham Village College, we are striving to create a five-year curriculum plan that builds effective revision strategies into homework and lessons, to ensure that students are able to place powerful knowledge into their long-term memories. Additionally, we hope that this will help build effective learning strategies from early in their time here at the college.

Based on evidence, we know that regular recall activities are the best way of achieving this goal and committing powerful knowledge into the students' memories.

At the start of each term, we shall publish all the knowledge organisers that students will require for their studies in each curriculum area. These will cover a range of aspects: facts, dates, characters, quotes, precise definitions and important vocabulary. We are clear: if this fundamental knowledge is secured, students can then develop their higher-level skills of analysis and critical understanding with greater depth.

They will be given an electronic A4 Knowledge Organiser (KO) booklet for each term containing all of the knowledge required. In lessons, Bottisham staff will be regularly testing this fundamental knowledge, using short-quizzes or even more formal "Faculty Knowledge Tests".

The best way to use these organisers at home, is to follow a simple mantra:





- 1. Look at a certain aspects of a particular knowledge organiser**
- 2. Cover up part of their knowledge organiser**
- 3. Write it out from memory**
- 4. Check and correct any spelling mistakes, missing bits or mistakes**




So simple but so effective.

Theme A - Relationships & Families

Key Words			
Adultery	Having sex with someone who is not your husband or wife, outside of marriage	Gender Prejudice	Holding biased opinions about people based on their gender
Artificial Contraception	Methods of preventing pregnancy e.g. condoms, the pill, the coil	Heterosexual	Sexual attraction to the opposite gender
Cohabitation	Living and starting a family with someone who you are not married to	Homosexual	Sexual attraction to the same gender
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage	Marriage	A legal and religious ceremony joining two people together in love
Family Planning	Using a woman's natural cycle of fertility to try and avoid pregnancy	Procreation	Bringing babies into the world
Gender Discrimination	Acting against people based on their gender	Remarriage	Marrying someone else after divorce

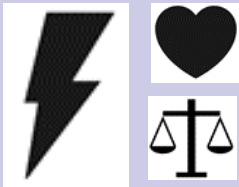

Key Ideas		
Religious Views on Sexuality 	<u>Sexual Orientation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Roman Catholic church and a number of Protestants teaches that sex between people of the same gender goes against God's plan for sex They argue that homosexual relationships are sinful Liberal Christians teach that Jesus wanted people to love each other and show mercy so you should love anyone Gay marriage is banned in the Catholic Church and Church of England <p><i>"Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman"</i> – Leviticus 18:22</p>	<u>Adultery and Sex Outside Marriage</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roman Catholics argue that all sex before marriage and after a divorce is unacceptable. Sex should only take place inside a marriage which is a lifelong, loving relationship between a man and a woman. Adultery means the act of having sex with someone who is not your husband or wife. It is prohibited by the Bible and Christians argue it is wrong as it undermines marriage, involves lies and secrecy goes against Gods word. <p><i>"You shall not commit adultery"</i> - Exodus 20:14</p>
Artificial Contraception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artificial contraception means using something to stop yourself from getting pregnant. This could be a condom, the pill or a device like the coil. Family planning means using the natural cycle of fertility which women go through to predict when a woman would be least fertile. It is much less effective than artificial contraception. God tells Adam and Eve (the first couple) to <i>"be fruitful and multiply"</i> (Genesis 1:2) which encourages them to have children. The Catholic Church argues that all sexual acts inside marriage must be open to procreation (having babies) and that a baby is a gift from God. They may use family planning as it is a natural method. The Church of England argues that contraception should be allowed so that couples can take time and consider if they want to have children. 	

Theme a - Relationships & Families (continued)




Key Ideas		
Marriage and Divorce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage is a religious and legal ceremony in which two people make vows (promises) in front of their friends and family and (if in a church) in front of God • During the ceremony you agree to be together for life saying “<i>til death do us part</i>” (Marriage Ceremony) • Divorce is the legal break-up of a marriage. It is legal in the UK and many marriages currently end in divorce. • Many Christians do not like it as it breaks the promises made in a marriage before God • The Catholic Church do not support divorce. They believe that sex after divorce is a form of adultery and you cannot get remarried in a Catholic Church once you have been divorced. Jesus says “<i>if a man divorces his wife [...] he involves her in adultery</i>” (Matthew 5:32) • The Church of England accepts divorce, especially if it is for reasons of abuse but you have to receive special permission to get remarried in a church. They might see it as a merciful option. 	
Family 	<u>Types of Family</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear Family is a family with a mother, father and children – some Christians argue this is the ideal • Extended Family is a family where grandparents and other relatives are involved • Single Parent Family this is a family where one parent brings up the child 	<u>Purpose of the Family</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procreation – the family should be for the purpose of having and bringing up children • Stability – the family should be for providing a secure, stable environment for children • Faith – the family should be a way of bringing children up as good Christians
Gender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality means that men and women should be equal and given the same rights and opportunities as each other • In the UK women can face gender prejudice and discrimination where they are not treated equality • The Catholic Church argues that women have a special role as mothers and they do not allow women to be priests • The Church of England has allowed women priests since 1994 	

Theme A - Christian Beliefs

Key Words			
Ascension	Jesus returning to be with God in heaven after the crucifixion and resurrection	Omnipotent	God's nature as all-powerful
Atonement	Making things better after sinning, asking for forgiveness from God	Original Sin	The built-in human nature to reject God, which comes from Adam and Eve's disobedience
Benevolent	God's nature as all-loving	Resurrection	Jesus returning from the dead after he was crucified
Crucifixion	Jesus' execution by the Romans on the cross	Salvation	Being saved from sin and given eternal life in heaven by God
Incarnation	God becoming flesh in the form of Jesus Christ	Sin	The rejection of God, shown in thoughts and actions which go against God's will
Just	God's nature as fair	Trinity	God's nature as three-parts-in-one, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Key Ideas	
Nature of God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe in one God who is the creator and the sustainer of all that exists God is omnipotent which means He is almighty and has unlimited power God is benevolent which means He is all-loving and all-good God is just which means He is the perfect and fair judge The Problem of Suffering asks: If God is all these things why does He allow bad things to happen to "good" people?
The Trinity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe God is three persons in one. This idea is called the Trinity. Each person of the Trinity is fully God but the three persons of the Trinity are not the same. The Father is the creator of all life The Son is Jesus Christ who is both fully human and fully God The Holy Spirit is the unseen power of God at work in the life of the Christian, pointing people towards Jesus <p><i>"We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit" – The Nicene Creed</i></p>

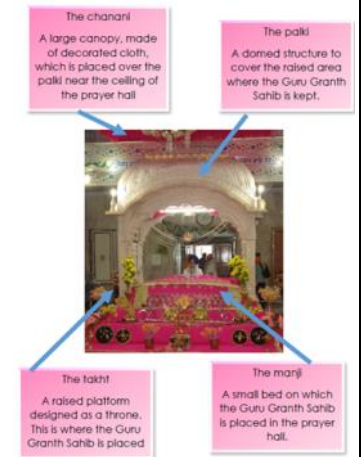
Theme A - Christian Beliefs (continued)

Key Ideas			
Incarnation and Crucifixion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crucifixion • Along with the resurrection, is one of the central events in Christianity • Jesus was nailed to a cross by the Romans where he died • On the cross, Jesus faced God's full punishment for the sins of the world ("My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" – Mark 15:34) • This was always part of God's plan so that sinful people could have peace with God, through Jesus's sacrifice for their sin • The crucifixion fulfilled many of the prophecies of the Old Testament (e.g. Isaiah 53:56 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed") • This event is remembered on Good Friday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incarnation • Christians believe that God was incarnated (born) in human form as Jesus Christ • This was so that God could enact his plan of salvation • Mary was impregnated by the Holy Spirit and gave birth as a virgin – for Christians this is proof of Jesus' status as the son of God • Christmas is the festival that celebrates the incarnation "The word became flesh and dwelt among us" – John 1:14 	
Resurrection and Ascension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurrection • After Jesus was dead and buried Christians believe he rose from the dead – this is the resurrection • Early on the Sunday three women visited his tomb expecting to find his body but it was not there • After his resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples and told them to spread the word of him • This event is celebrated on Easter Sunday <p>"He is risen" – Christians say this to each other on Easter Sunday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ascension • Forty days after he rose from the dead Jesus ascended (went up) into heaven 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A belief in resurrection and ascension ... • Shows life after death is real • Assures Christians they will rise again after death and live on in the afterlife • Proves the truth of Jesus's words
Sin and Salvation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians believe everyone will be judged after you die and that whether you believe that Jesus died in your place to take the punishment for your sins and trust in him as your salvation will determine if you go to heaven or hell. • Sin is the rejection of God and his blueprint for the world. It takes the form of any action or thought that goes against God's will. Christians believe that the Bible reveals God's will, particularly in the person of Jesus. • God gave humans free will, meaning that they have responsibility for how they have acted during their life • Salvation is what Jesus's death on the cross achieves for people who believe in him – rescuing people from the penalty of their sins, eternal separation from God. • The death of Jesus made up for original sin 		

Theme A - Sikh Practices

Key Words	
Gurdwara	A Sikh place of worship. It literally means the door of the Guru
Rumalla	A highly decorated cloth used to cover the Guru Granth Sahib
Chauri	A fan that is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib as a sign of respect
Ardas	The prayer that Sikhs begin and end worship
Gutka	A prayer book which contains some of the daily or regular prayers from the Guru Granth Sahib
Nam Japna	Meditating on the name of God
Diwan	Means 'in the court of the Guru'. It refers to an act of worship of the Sikh community in a gurdwara
Kirtan	Devotional singing of the hymns from the Guru Granth Sahib
Hukam	The act of opening the Guru Granth Sahib at random and reading a verse
Langar	Guru's kitchen or the free kitchen within each gurdwara. Also refers to the food being served in the kitchen.
Japji	A Sikh prayer
Granthi	A person who reads the Guru Granth Sahib and officiates at ceremonies in the gurdwara
Harimandir Sahib	The Golden Temple, the temple of God

Key Ideas	
The Gurdwara	<p>A gurdwara is any place where the Guru Granth Sahib is kept and treated with respect.</p> <p>Some gurdwaras are purpose built, but others are adapted for use as a place of worship. There is a flag (Nishan Sahib) which is usually yellow with the khanda symbol in blue. It flies from a flagpole that is often wrapped in yellow cloth</p> <p>There are two main areas in a gurdwara. The prayer hall (Darbar Sahib) and the langar.</p> <p>The prayer hall is a large space with a raised platform (throne) at one end. The throne is where the Guru Granth Sahib rests, it will be covered in fine cloth and usually surrounded by flowers.</p> <p>There is a place for money and food offerings in front of the platform, and a bowl containing karah parshad.</p>
	<p>Respect is shown to the Guru Granth Sahib in many ways as it is regarded as the Eternal Living Guru.</p> <p>The Guru Granth Sahib contains writings of many of the Sikh Gurus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is called Sahib, a term of respect All printed copies are identical (its words do not change and it is written in Gurmukhi) Sikhs sit on the floor for worship so they are lower than it They don't point their feet towards it Worshippers bow before it Rumallas cover it when it is not being used <p><u>The importance of the Guru Granth Sahib</u></p> <p>It contains the Guru's teachings about God. Sikhs believe it provides teaching and guidance about ways they can become gurmukh.</p> <p>It encourages meditation on God's name and keeping God in the centre of people's thoughts.</p> <p>There is no gurdwara unless the Guru Granth Sahib is present.</p> <p>It contains the writings of the Sikh Gurus and is the Eternal Living Guru. The Mool Mantra and other prayers said in Sikh homes come from the Guru Granth Sahib.</p>



Sikh Practices (continued)		Key Ideas
Festivals	<p><u>The festival of Vaisakhi (Baisakhi)</u></p> <p>Vaisakhi was an ancient harvest festival. Vaisakhi is a Sanskrit word named after a month in the Indian calendar. It is normally celebrated on the 13th or 14th April.</p> <p>In 1699 Guru Gobind Singh formed the khalsa at the festival of Vaisakhi.</p> <p>There was much religious persecution and the Guru wanted to build a body of committed Sikhs. In the future, those who were prepared to commit themselves were to agree to keep certain rules and wear special symbols of their faith (the five Ks).</p> <p>path, followed by an act of worship and the Ardas prayer. Community meals are held and Sikhs may cater for large numbers or people. Other customs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becoming an amritdhari Sikh • Performing kirtan • Holding cultural celebrations • Sending Vaisakhi cards to friends and family • Wearing new clothes • Voting for elected committees for the gurdwara 	<p><u>The festival of Divali</u></p> <p>It is celebrated widely by Sikhs and Hindus. Lights are used to symbolise the victory of good over evil. Divali is held in October or early November. For Sikhs today it is a celebration of freedom.</p> <p>An akhand path is held during Divali and often a street procession is organised. It is usually celebrated with firework displays. Homes are cleaned and decorated with traditional oil lamps and lights. New clothes are worn and children are given presents.</p> <p>In India, bonfires will be lit. The Golden Temple is decorated with thousands of lights. Langars are also often held in the open air.</p>
The gurpurbs	<p>Festival of the Guru. These festivals celebrate the anniversary of the birth or death of the Guru.</p> <p>There are four main gurpurbs celebrated by Sikhs. These are the birthday of Guru Nanak, the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh, the martyrdom of Guru Arjan and the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur.</p> <p>Celebrations in the community include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A procession of the Guru Granth Sahib • Local bands or groups of musicians perform kirtan • Passers-by are offered food or refreshments • Cards may be exchanged • Special langars are held for all those taking part 	
Birth and Naming Ceremonies	<p>About two weeks after a baby is born, the family takes the baby to the gurdwara. This can be during a normal service at the gurdwara. Everyone bows before the Guru Granth Sahib and makes offerings of food or money. The parents either take karah parshad to the gurdwara or donate some money to pay for it. The family may also offer something special such as a rumalla. The Mool Mantra is said in thanksgiving for the new life. The parents decide on a name and the granthi then announces it to the congregation and says a blessing. The congregation sings Anand sahib and offers a prayer of thanksgiving.</p>	
The Initiation Ceremony (Amrit Sanskar)	<p>In agreeing to go through the ceremony a Sikh makes a commitment to become a member of the khalsa. This involves wearing the five Ks and following strict rules. The person being initiated is required to bathe and wash their hair, cover their head, and wear clean clothes for the ceremony.</p> <p>Amritdhari Sikhs should always wear the five Ks and keep the following rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship only one God • Not cut their hair, keep it clean and wear a turban • Not eat meat which has been ritually slaughtered (most are vegetarian) • Not cohabit with anyone who is not their husband or wife • Not use tobacco • Not drink alcohol or gamble • Not arrange a son or daughter's marriage for financial gain • Women are not to wear a veil 	

Basic Sikh beliefs

Sikh—learner or disciple

Guru—spiritual teacher of wisdom

Guru Granth Sahib—the holy scripture of the Sikh faith, regarded as the ultimate authority

Monotheism—belief in one God



Knowledge Organiser Sikhism: Beliefs & Teachings



3. Karma, Rebirth, Mukti

Karma — Law of action and consequence; that each action has a corresponding consequence; belief that these actions create our future life experiences.

Rebirth — Belief that each soul is born into a new physical lifetime after the death of the old.

Mukti — Liberation/freedom from rebirth.

Five Khands — Five stages of liberation - realm of righteous action/piety; realm of knowledge; realm of spiritual endeavour/effort; realm of grace; realm of truth.

Barriers to mukti — The characteristics that act as blockers to liberation - Anger (krodh), Lust (kam), Greed (lobdh), Worldly attachment (moh), Pride (ahankar).

1. The Nature of God

Creator — role of God to create the universe from nothing

The Mool Mantra — Sikh declaration of faith, describing God.

‘There is only One God. (Ik Onkar)

Truth is His name. (Satnam)

He is the creator. (Karta Purakh)

He is without fear, He is without hate. (Nirhau, Nirvair)

He is immortal, without form, (Akaal Moorat)

He is beyond birth and death, (Ajooni)

He is self-existent’ (Saibhang)

He is realised by the kindness of the true Guru...’ (Gur Prasad)

4. The importance of being God-centred

Gurmukh — God-centred; having focus always on God.

Manmukh — Man-centred; materialistic; self-centred.

Haumai — Pride, ego, self-centredness.

5. The Oneness of Humanity and the Equality of All

Equality — Belief that all are equal in value and worth, regardless of status, gender, etc.

Guru Nanak — Founder of Sikhism and first Guru.

Guru Gobind Singh — Tenth human Guru; established Khalsa.

Amrit sanskar — The ceremony of initiation into the Khalsa

Amritdhari Sikh — A Sikh who has gone through the amrit ceremony, and taken the Khalsa vows, so lives by that code.

Five Ks — Five symbols worn by Sikhs - kesh, kara, kirpan, kaccha, and kanga.

2. The Nature of Human Life: Virtues

Truthful living (sat) — fundamental quality to develop to achieve mukti. Honesty and justice, not discriminating.

Justice — Part of Sikh virtues of truthful living (sat); means working to make all things fair, or to bring equality.

Compassion (daya) — fundamental quality to develop to achieve mukti. Considering others and trying to help relieve their suffering.

Patience — being able to accept/put up with delays/problems with a calm mind and attitude.

Contentment (santokh) — fundamental quality to develop to achieve mukti. Not being greedy, being satisfied with one’s lot, maintaining detachment.

Courage — being brave.

Humility (nimrata) — fundamental quality to develop to achieve mukti. To be humble, not proud.

Self-control — means being able to control one’s temper and behaviour

Temperance — not partaking of alcohol or drugs.

Wisdom — means having experience, knowledge and good judgement.

6. Sewa and Sangat


Langar — Communal meal at gurdwara; act of sewa.

Sewa — Service; three types - physical (tan), mental (man), and material (dhan)





Sangat — Sikh religious community.

Theme B: Religion & Life

Key Words			
Abortion	The ending of a pregnancy	Liberal	A type of Christian who reads the Bible as stories, myths and metaphors
Big Bang Theory	Scientific theory of the creation of the universe through a large explosion	Literalist	A type of Christian who believes the Bible is literally true + the word of God
Dominion	The power humans have over God's creation	Natural Resources	Materials found in nature (e.g. coal, oil) which are exploited by humans
Euthanasia	The painless killing of a terminally ill patient	Purgatory	Where Catholics believe souls are purified after death + before heaven
Evolution	Scientific theory of the development of humans from apes	Quality of Life	How easy or difficult someone's life is – e.g. cancer causes a low quality of life
Heaven	Paradise where those saved by Jesus go after death to be forever with God	Sanctity of Life	The belief that all life is sacred as man is made in God's image
Hell	Damnation where those who have rejected Jesus go after death to be forever without God	Stewardship	The responsibility God gave humans to look after the world
Judgement	After death Christians believe you are judged by God	Vegetarian	The choice not to eat animals



Key Ideas		
Ideas about Creation 	<u>Christian Ideas</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe the universe was designed and made by God The creation story in Genesis 1 says that God made the world in six days Christians hold a range of views on creation, ranging from those who believe the world was created in 6 days to those who read the creation story as a poem and so believe that it may have taken a much longer time. Fundamentally, the image of God as Creator is a key belief <p><i>"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" – Genesis 1:1</i></p>	<u>Scientific Ideas</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Big Bang Theory argues that the universe started as a dense collection of mass which massively expanded creating stars, galaxies and planets The Theory of Evolution comes from Charles Darwin's work who observed that animals change over time. People have used his work to argue that people are descended from apes Some people will try to put Scientific and Christian views at odds with each other, but there are many Scientists who believe that God created the world and humans through the events/processes mentioned above

Theme B: Religion & Life (continued)




Key Ideas		
Stewardship + Dominion 	<p><u>Stewardship</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship means Christians have a duty to look after the environment on behalf of God and for future generations • This can be seen where Christians campaign for environmental charities or choose to reduce waste and recycle <p><i>"Rule over [...] every living creature" - Genesis 1:28</i></p>	<p><u>Dominion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominion is the idea that God gave humans power and authority over the world • Some Christians believe this allows them to use natural resources (e.g. oil and coal) and animals to make their lives better • In Genesis God gives Adam and Eve the power to name the animals and rule over them
Abortion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abortion is the removal of a foetus from the womb in order to end a pregnancy. • In the UK (except Northern Ireland) it is legal during the first 24 weeks of pregnancy unless the mother's life is in danger or the foetus is severely deformed. • The Catholic Church is strongly against abortion. They believe in sanctity of life, the idea that life is a sacred gift from God which only God can take away. They see the foetus as a living thing. • The Church of England think abortion is sometimes acceptable as a pregnancy as a result of rape or where the child would be very ill would lead to a very poor quality of life <p><i>"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb" – Psalm 139:13</i></p>	
Euthanasia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euthanasia is the painless killing of a patient with a terminal illness. • Voluntary euthanasia is where the patient asks for their life to be ended. • Non-voluntary euthanasia is where the patient is not capable of asking to die, perhaps in a coma. • All forms of euthanasia are currently illegal in the UK. • The Catholic Church is strongly against euthanasia. They believe that only God can give and take life and that life is sacred (sanctity of life) • Some liberal Christians think euthanasia can be an act of mercy which Jesus tells them is a good thing to do, this is especially the case when someone's quality of life is very poor. 	
The Afterlife 	<p>Christians believe everyone will be judged after you die and that whether you believe that Jesus died in your place to take the punishment for your sins and trust in him as your salvation will determine if you go to heaven or hell.</p>	
	<p>Roman Catholics believe that there is a middle stage called purgatory where souls go to be purified of sin before they go to heaven</p>	<p>The Bible teaches that Jesus will return on a future Day of Judgement when everybody will be judged</p>

Theme C: Existence of God and Revelation

Key Words			
Atheist	Someone who does not believe a God exists	Omnipotent	God’s nature as all-powerful
Benevolent	God’s nature as all-loving and all-good	Omniscient	God’s nature as all-knowing and aware of all that has happened past, present, future
Faith	A commitment to God and religion that goes beyond proof	Personal	God’s nature as merciful, compassionate and something humans can relate to
General Revelation	God making themselves known through ordinary experiences open to all	Proof	Evidence that shows something is true or existent
Immanent	God’s nature as present in and involved in the world	Special Revelation	God making themselves known through extraordinary experiences
Impersonal	God’s nature as non-human, unknowable and mysterious	Theist	Someone who believes in a God or Gods
Miracle	A remarkable event that cannot be explained by science alone	Transcendent	God’s nature as beyond our understanding, existing outside the universe



Key Ideas	
<div>Design Argument</div> <div>  </div>	<p>The Design Argument argues that God must exist because the world around us is so intricate and well-designed that there must be an intelligent creator behind it.</p> <p>William Paley puts this forward in his Watchmaker’s Argument that says if you found a watch in the grass you would not assume its intricate mechanism had come about by accident, you would assume someone had created it. The same applies for the world around us.</p> <p>ý Atheists argue that nature and science are responsible for the world around us and that much of the so-called design is the result of chance and natural selection.</p>
<div>First Cause Argument</div> <div>  </div>	<p>The First Cause Argument was put forward by Thomas Aquinas and it argues that there has to be an uncaused cause that made everything else happen and that must be God. It argues that nothing moves without first being pushed and that God is the only possible being that can exist with no cause as God is eternal (never beginning, never ending)</p> <p>ý Atheists argue that by this logic God must have a cause or that if God is eternal then the universe itself could be eternal as well.</p>

Theme C: Existence of God and Revelation (continued)





Key Ideas		
<p>Argument from Miracles</p> 	<p>The Argument from Miracles argues that miracles (a remarkable event seemingly only explained by God's actions) prove that God exists. They argue that these events (like Jesus walking on water or people coming back from the dead) cannot be explained by science and that they must be the result of God's intervention.</p> <p>Atheists argue that miracles are not more than happy coincidences and that they can be explained either by science or people being delusional or lying.</p>	
<p>Special and General Revelation</p> 	<p><u>Special Revelation</u></p> <p>This is a form of revelation where God reveals themselves through remarkable experiences usually only open to one or a small group of people.</p> <p>These could be visions (seeing Mary, God or Jesus), dreams, miracles or hearing God's call directly.</p> <p>In the Bible Saul experiences a vision of Jesus on the Road to Damascus and this causes him to believe in God, change his name, and preach the Gospel</p>	<p><u>General Revelation</u></p> <p>This is a form of revelation where God reveals themselves through ordinary experiences which are open to all people to experience.</p> <p>This could be through nature where God's creation is revealed in the intricacy of the human eye or the beauty of the Grand Canyon.</p> <p>It could be through scripture, God reveals much information about Himself in the Bible.</p>
<p>Nature of God</p> 	<p><u>Omnipotent, Omniscient, Benevolent</u></p> <p>According to the Bible and Christian teachings, God is omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing) and benevolent (all-loving).</p>	<p><u>Problem of Suffering</u></p> <p>This however leads to the Problem of Suffering. If God is all-powerful and all-loving why does so much suffering exist in the world? Some people see this as an argument against God's existence.</p>
	<p><u>Personal vs Impersonal</u></p> <p>Different Christians have different views on God with some seeing them as personal and some as impersonal.</p> <p>A personal God has human characteristics and Christians can form a relationship with them through prayer.</p> <p>An impersonal God is mysterious and unknowable and has no human characteristics. More like an idea or a force than a human being.</p>	<p><u>Transcendent vs Immanent</u></p> <p>They also disagree about God's place in the world.</p> <p>A transcendent God exists beyond and outside of life on earth and is not limited by the laws of physics or the rules of time and space.</p> <p>An immanent God is active and involved in life on earth and can play a role in events that happen here. This could be through the Holy Spirit answering prayers for example.</p>

Theme E: Religion, Crime & Punishment

Key Words			
Community Service	Working in the community to pay back for a criminal act	Hate Crime	A crime motivated by hatred e.g. racism, homophobia
Corporal Punishment	Using physical pain as a punishment	Poverty	Not having enough money to be able to live a comfortable life
Crime	An action which is against the law and incurs a punishment	Prison	A place where criminals are sent to withdraw their freedom as punishment
Death Penalty	A form of punishment where the offender is killed for their crime	Punishment	Something negative done to criminals by the state
Deterrence	An aim of punishment – preventing future criminals by harsh treatment of offenders	Reformation	An aim of punishment – to try and reform criminals
Forgiveness	To show mercy and pardon someone for what they've done wrong	Retribution	An aim of punishment – seeking a form of revenge on criminals

Key Ideas		
Christian Attitudes to Crime 	<u>Good and Evil Intentions</u> The Bible warns Christians against having evil thoughts which lead to evil actions. Avoiding sin and temptation steers Christians away from crime. Christians would be more willing to treat an offender who had good intentions with more mercy than one who acted out of evil intentions.	<u>Attitudes to Lawbreakers</u> Christians believe that everyone is sinful and has the capacity to be tempted to do wrong and break the law. Christians are taught to “love the sinner, hate the sin” which means they should forgive and show mercy to people who have done wrong but admitted their mistakes and sought atonement .
Reasons for Crime 	People are tempted to commit crime for a wide range of reasons including poverty (not having enough money or food), upbringing (where people are not taught right from wrong), addiction (some people commit crimes to feed an addiction), greed (committing crimes out of a desire for things they cannot afford), hatred or out of opposition to unjust law (breaking the law to oppose hateful or unjust laws)	

Theme E: Religion, Crime & Punishment (continued)

Key Ideas			
Three Aims of Punishment 	<u>Deterrence</u> This aim of punishment seeks to use punishment as a message to others considering committing crime. By giving one criminal a harsh punishment others may be put off committing a similar crime.	<u>Reformation</u> This aim of punishment seeks to help criminals change their behaviour for the better . It may involve therapy, education or training. Many Christians support this as a form of 'love your neighbour' mercy .	<u>Retribution</u> This aim of punishment is society getting its own back on the offender. The Old Testament says ' an eye for an eye ' so some Christians would argue that this form of punishment is just according to the Bible.
Forgiveness 	<p>Forgiveness is at the heart of Jesus' teaching. It means to show mercy and pardon someone for what they have done wrong. Jesus personified forgiveness in taking the punishment for all the wrong things that everybody has done when he died on the cross.</p> <p>However, showing someone forgiveness does not mean they should not be justly punished for their crimes.</p> <p>When Jesus was crucified, he forgave those who sentenced him to death and crucified him saying: 'Father forgive them, for they know not what they do'.</p> <p>Forgiveness leads Christians to support reformation as an aim of punishment as it allows the criminal to be forgiven and to ask for forgiveness. They also use forgiveness as an argument against the death penalty.</p>		
Christian Attitudes to Punishment 	<u>Prisons</u> Many Christians believe prisoners should be treated well when in prison as they are still people who can repent of their crimes. Some Christians campaign for better prison conditions out of mercy.	<u>Corporal Punishment</u> Most Christians do not support using physical pain as a form of punishment as it is harmful and negative . It is currently illegal in the UK and many Christians would rather seek to reform a criminal than punish them in this way.	<u>Community Service</u> Many Christians argue in favour of community service where criminals work to repay their community as a punishment. It allows criminals to make up for what they have done and does not harm the offender in the process.
Death Penalty 	<p>The death penalty means the state killing criminals who have committed the worst crimes. It has not been used in the UK since 1969 but is still a common punishment elsewhere in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Christians argue that the death penalty is a just punishment for murder as the Bible says both 'you shall not kill' and 'an eye for an eye'. They may also argue that it deters criminals from committing the worst crimes and keeps people safe. Other Christians argue that the death penalty goes against sanctity of life. Life is sacred and holy and only God can give and take life. They might also argue that the death penalty goes against the aim of reformation as a dead criminal cannot be reformed, forgiven or shown mercy to. 		