

Suggested Outline Framework for Unit 1:  
Religion and Philosophical Themes

**Buddhism**





## Suggested Outline Framework for Unit 1: Religion and Philosophical Themes

### Buddhism

Unit 1 comprises 50% of the GCSE qualification. Therefore the scheme of learning proposed below is intended **only as a guide** based on approximately three hours of RS per fortnight over in an academic year. The total number of lessons in this scheme is fifty-five based on one hour per lesson. The recommendation is that the **whole** of the course is **always** taught.

Assessment should be formative **and** engaging. Where possible, try and use the same or similar format to the final examination. Always share mark schemes with students. Ideally this should be towards the end of the unit so that they have had time to assimilate and engage in the work first.

The Moral Maze on Radio 4 is an excellent resource for those who are interested as is The Infinite Monkey Cage (also on Radio 4). Both are available as podcasts thus making it easier to select relevant episodes.

#### **Part A: Core beliefs, teachings and practices (lessons 1-13)**

Lesson	Area of Study	Specific Content	Concepts	Resources	Possible Learning Activities
1	Beliefs	Buddha - Early life	Buddha	<a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/alien-abduction-buddhism">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/alien-abduction-buddhism</a> ; Individual whiteboards;  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsN7NLs-0jI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsN7NLs-0jI</a> Note the Buddha's name at birth: Prince Siddhartha Gautama	Design a storyboard of the life of the Buddha
2	Beliefs	Buddha - Four Sights	Buddha; dukkha	<a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/enlightenment-buddha">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/enlightenment-buddha</a>	Explain why each of the Four Sights had such an impact on the Buddha
3	Beliefs	Buddha - Renunciation	Buddha	<a href="http://www.buddhanet.net/bud_lt04.htm">http://www.buddhanet.net/bud_lt04.htm</a> - why did the Buddha see renunciation as so important?	A good comprehension exercise that can be differentiated
4	Beliefs	Buddha - Enlightenment	Buddha; dhamma	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/history/history.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/history/history.shtml</a> Discuss the meaning of the name 'Buddha' and why Siddhartha Gautama became known as the Buddha.	How do you see the world? Explain your answer.
5	Beliefs/	Buddha – Teachings/ types of suffering	Buddha; dukkha; tanha	<a href="https://tricycle.org/magazine/the-first-sermon-of-the-buddha/">https://tricycle.org/magazine/the-first-sermon-of-the-buddha/</a> ;  <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zw9whyc/revision/2">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zw9whyc/revision/2</a> ; Use the sermon to introduce the different types of suffering (dukkha); causes of suffering (tanha); enlightenment as the end of suffering (nirodha)	Read and explain the importance of The Deer Park Sermon; why do we suffer? Do you have cravings?

6	Beliefs	Eightfold Path	Eightfold path; noble truths	Dhammapada 1,5; <a href="http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-12-14/Noble-Eightfold-Path.aspx">http://www.clear-vision.org/Schools/Students/Ages-12-14/Noble-Eightfold-Path.aspx</a> ;  <a href="https://gittfalkenberg.wordpress.com/2010/03/18/the-noble-eightfold-path/">https://gittfalkenberg.wordpress.com/2010/03/18/the-noble-eightfold-path/</a> ;  <a href="http://allaboutbuddhism.tumblr.com/beliefs">http://allaboutbuddhism.tumblr.com/beliefs</a> - a good image;  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLS81XFzaWw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLS81XFzaWw</a>	Design an A3 diagram of the Eightfold Path with your own explanation for each aspect
7	Beliefs	Three sections of the Eightfold Path	Eightfold path; dhamma	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/fournobletruths_1.shtml</a> ;  <a href="http://www.bps.lk/olib/bl/bl032.pdf">http://www.bps.lk/olib/bl/bl032.pdf</a> - a good introduction for teachers;  <a href="http://first-2a3c.kxcdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/8foldpath.jpg">http://first-2a3c.kxcdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/8foldpath.jpg</a> - a good image;  <a href="http://oneminddharma.com/noble-eightfold-path/">http://oneminddharma.com/noble-eightfold-path/</a>  Wisdom: panna  Morality: sila  Meditation: samadhi	Analyse this division and explain why you think it has been split in such a manner; could be done in groups with groups taking one aspect each and then another explaining how they come together in the Eightfold Path
8	Beliefs	Challenges of living according to Buddhist teachings	Noble truths	<a href="http://www.sfwales.org/">http://www.sfwales.org/</a> ;  <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/buddhism-can-solve-it-all">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/buddhism-can-solve-it-all</a>	Invite a Buddhist to come and speak about being a Buddhist in Wales



9	Practices	Meditation practices	Samatha; mettabhavana; vipassana	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/customs/meditation_1.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/customs/meditation_1.shtml</a> ; <a href="https://thebuddhistcentre.com/text/what-meditation">https://thebuddhistcentre.com/text/what-meditation</a> ; <a href="https://www.samatha.org/">https://www.samatha.org/</a> ; <a href="http://www.wildmind.org/metta/introduction/outline">http://www.wildmind.org/metta/introduction/outline</a> ; <a href="https://www.dhamma.org/en/about/vipassana">https://www.dhamma.org/en/about/vipassana</a> ; <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/holy-cribs-vihara">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/holy-cribs-vihara</a> ; <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/young-and-buddhist">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/young-and-buddhist</a>	Plan some meditation into a lesson
10	Practices	Festivals and retreats: Wesak	Wesak	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/buddhism/buddha_day.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/buddhism/buddha_day.shtml</a> ; <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/holydays/wesak.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/holydays/wesak.shtml</a> ; <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/assembly-script/wesak">https://www.truetube.co.uk/assembly-script/wesak</a> - you will need to register; <a href="https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=wesak+in+wales&amp;ie=&amp;oe=#">https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=wesak+in+wales&amp;ie=&amp;oe=#</a> (The link should take you to a powerpoint on Wesak)  Explain how Theravada Buddhists use Wesak to celebrate the birth, <b>enlightenment and death</b> of the Buddha	Design a card for Wesak with a suitable greeting

<b>11</b>	Practices	Festivals and retreats: Kathina	Sangha	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/holydays/kathina.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/holydays/kathina.shtml</a> ; <a href="http://buddhism.about.com/od/thefirstbuddhists/a/Kathina.htm">http://buddhism.about.com/od/thefirstbuddhists/a/Kathina.htm</a>	A study of the monastic life in Buddhism; a good chance to look at gender roles in Buddhism
<b>12</b>	Practices	Festivals and retreats: Paranirvana Day	Paranirvana	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/buddhism/nirvana.shtml">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/buddhism/nirvana.shtml</a> <a href="http://buddhism.about.com/od/buddhistholidays/a/nirvanaday.htm">http://buddhism.about.com/od/buddhistholidays/a/nirvanaday.htm</a>	Think about the concept of Nirvana; why is it so important to Buddhists?
<b>13</b>	Assessment				