

descriptor	Knowledge Year 8	Understanding Year 8	Evaluation year 8
Excelling	Excellent range and depth of knowledge including subject specific vocabulary used accurately and consistently. Recognising different viewpoints for all topics: Accurate and frequent use of religious teachings from within a religion and non-religious responses included	Excellent range and depth of understanding backed up with accurate and frequent use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary Showing excellent understanding of reasons for different viewpoints both religious and non-religious for all topics: excellent understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Excellent evaluation of strengths and weaknesses of an argument with good evidence of independent thought about the question. Alternative views assessed and complexity of issue shown. A coherent, reasoned argument leading to an individual conclusion
Extending	Very good range or depth of knowledge including subject specific vocabulary used accurately. Very good use of religious teachings. Able to recognise a range of different viewpoints for all topics:	Very good range and depth of understanding backed up with accurate use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary Showing very good understanding of reasons for different viewpoints for all topics: Very good understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Very good evaluation of strengths and weaknesses of an argument with clear evidence of independent thought about the question. Alternative views assessed and complexity of issue shown. A coherent, reasoned argument leading to a valid conclusion
embedding	Good range and depth of knowledge. Subject specific vocabulary used effectively. Good use of religious teaching. Knowledge of differing viewpoints:	Good range and depth of understanding backed up with good use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary Showing good understanding of reasons for different viewpoints for all topics: Good understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Very good evaluation of strengths and weaknesses of an argument with clear evidence of independent thought about the question. Alternative views assessed and complexity of issue shown. A coherent, reasoned argument leading to a valid conclusion
secure	Satisfactory range and depth knowledge. Appropriate subject specific vocabulary for all topics: . Some knowledge of differing viewpoints:	Satisfactory range and depth of understanding backed up with some use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary Showing some understanding of reasons for different viewpoints for all topics: some understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Some ideas are developed and evaluated with evidence of independent thought about the question. Clear acknowledgement of an alternative view. A reasoned conclusion formed.
developing	Some range and depth knowledge. Limited subject specific vocabulary for all topics:	Clear understanding backed up with limited use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary. Showing some understanding of reasons for different viewpoints for all topics: some understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Limited development of ideas evaluated with some evidence of independent thought about the question. Some acknowledgement of an alternative view A limited conclusion formed.
Beginning	Knowledge is weak and information sometimes incorrect: Some use of subject terminology	Limited understanding backed up with some use of religious teachings and subject specific vocabulary. Showing some understanding of reasons for different viewpoints for all topics: little understanding of impact of beliefs on actions	Basic evaluation limited evidence of independent thought about the question Some acknowledgement of an alternative view. A weak conclusion formed

