

Year 7 VS: Topic 1 – Asking Questions

Why is thinking important?

Considering your place in the world around you is part of what makes you grow as a person. It broadens your horizons and allows you to set targets to achieve in the future.

Awe and Wonder:

Often we see things in day to day life which makes us say “wow”! We are inspired to think about them, wonder how they happen and appreciate their uniqueness or unusual happening.

Awe is an overwhelming sense of amazement. This could be down to something you've achieved, seen or heard. Wonder is the feeling of puzzlement you are left with when you want to know how and why something happened.

Both are important to humans because they make us feel part of the world around us and encourage us to do things to find out more.

Humanism.

This is a group of non-religious people who have believed that this life is the only life we have, that the universe is a natural phenomenon with no supernatural side, and that we can live ethical and fulfilling lives on the basis of reason and humanity. They have trusted to the scientific method, evidence, and reason to discover truths about the universe and have placed human welfare and happiness at the centre of their ethical decision making.

Why is awe and wonder important to faith?

For many people, the beauty and mystery of the world around them causes questions which cannot be answered easily. For religious people, belief in a God or many gods and goddesses can perhaps help them.

Some questions might include: why are we here? Where did we come from? What is the purpose of life?

Christians believe that all of these questions can be answered by God's existence. They believe that only God has the power and imagination to create the world around us.

Many Christians accept that scientific discoveries, like the Big Bang, cause further questions about whether God needs to exist. Could God have caused the Big Bang?

Key Vocabulary:

Atheist: someone who does not believe in any god or goddess

Agnostic: someone who is unsure if there is a god but is open to discussion

Theist: someone who believes in a god or goddess

Awe: a sense of amazement at the world around you

Wonder: thinking about how, why or when something happened

Creation: the idea that the whole universe was made by a greater being, rather than being caused by the Big Bang

Humanist: someone who believes we can live well without faith in a higher being



“He who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead...”

-Albert Einstein