

# **Year 8 Ethics Syllabus**

## **General Theme: Freedom, Obligation and Consequences**

### **Module 1: Freedom and Obligation**

- I can recognise the importance of reflective action in moral life and explain why we should think before we act.
- I can recognise the difference between habitual action and reflective action.
- I can explain that most of the choices we make are habitual, while other, weightier choices require reflection and consideration.
- I can demonstrate how reflective and habitual action bears on one's moral life, irrespective of one's religious faith.
- I can explain the idea of freedom as having the power to choose.
- I can give examples of the different ways in which one can act freely, while taking into consideration rules and respect for others.
- I can distinguish between physical and mental harm.

## **Module 2: Consequences and motives**

- I can explain the idea of freedom, e.g. freedom of choice.
- I can identify the motives and consequences of an action.
- I can recognise the relation between motive and consequence.
- I can express the difference between judging the actor and judging the act.

## **Module 3: Morality as Law**

- I can evaluate the notion that morality consists of obedience to a moral law.
- I can recognise that the three different monotheistic religions (Christianity, Islam and Judaism) generate different moral cultures.
- I can demonstrate that there are different religious and secular outlooks on life in different cultures.
- I can recognise the notion of conscience and what it means for the secular humanist and for people of faith.
- I can distinguish between individualistic and communitarian moral outlooks.
- I can recognise the difference between secular and religious moralities.
- I can recognise that people with different lifestyles, moral and religious beliefs and practices are valuable members of society.
- I can examine the notion of open mindedness with respect to difference in Maltese society.
- I can illustrate the value and limitations of tolerance, explaining that tolerance means respect for difference, but it not necessarily agreement with it.