

## MATTERS OF LIFE: MEDICAL ETHICS – Progress Tracker

**Ethics** is the study of moral choices, meaning choices based on whether we think something is **right** or **wrong**.

Most religious people are guided in their moral choices by the **teachings / rules / commands / principles** of their religion.

The belief that life is special because it has been created by God is called **sanctity of life**.

A developing human in the womb is either an **embryo** or a **foetus** (depending on how far along it is in its development).

People have different views on when a human life begins: some would say it is at the moment of **conception** (meaning when an egg is fertilised by a sperm); others, that it is when the life is **viable** (meaning it can survive outside the womb).

Muslims believe in 'ensoulment' which is when a developing baby receives its **soul** and the human life begins.

**Fertility** treatments are medical ways to help people to become pregnant and have babies.

Putting a body part such as a heart or lung into another person who needs one is called having a **transplant**

When scientists alter the genes of a living thing during the process of reproduction and having babies, it is known as **genetic engineering**

A 'designer baby' is a baby with features or characteristics which its **parents** have chosen before the pregnancy begins.

Cloning is the creation of an **identical copy** of a living thing, and has been used in the selective breeding of animals and plants for many years.