

Curriculum Overview 2019-2020

Religious Education

Intent:

All students will study Religious Education throughout Key Stage 3. At the end of Year 9, students have the option of choosing to complete a Full Course Religious Studies GCSE Qualification.

Implementation at Key Stage 3:

In Key Stage 3, students follow the locally agreed syllabus for RE. Students will explore a range of issues of faith, practises, moral and ethical issues in the community. The department is using a spiral curriculum which means that each unit of learning studied will help to prepare for GCSE learning in RE, by developing their skills and understanding.

Our aim is to teach a broad and balanced curriculum that fosters critical thinking, analytical and emotional skills to equip our students to participate fully and contribute positively to life in Modern Britain.

At the end of every unit of learning, students complete assessments that are linked to the topics and unit studied. We carefully track students' progress across the three terms and the assessments provide students with formative targets and Commitment to Learning Grades to enable their progression.

Enrichment activities include hearing the testimony of a Holocaust survivor share her moving story of the persecution the Jewish community faced. Visits to places of worship and celebrating religious and cultural festivals will also take place.

Implementation at Key Stage 4:

We use the Edexcel Specification B Exam board. Students study RE three lessons per week in Years 10 and 11.

Requirements for the new GCSE Religious Studies exam means students must have strong literacy skills and be able to evaluate controversial themes using appropriate knowledge, evidence and examples, as well as their own critical thought and reflection.

Overview of Key Stage 4:

GCSE Religious Studies is assessed over two exam papers taken during the summer of their Year 11 studies. The total assessment time for each paper is 1hour and 45 minutes. The papers are as follows:

- Paper 1: Religion and Ethics through Christianity

- Paper 2: Religion, Peace and Conflict through Islam

Students will sit mock exams in preparation, throughout the course, one at the end of Year 10 and two further mocks during Year 11. Detailed question by question analysis will be provided after each of these examinations.