

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Department Aims

We aim to develop students' spiritual wellbeing through a balanced introduction to contemporary religion which reflects the diversity that exists in our society.

We encourage our students to think about their individual role and place in society, taking on the responsibility of being an active citizen in our modern age.

We support students in developing their self-confidence and self-esteem, to aid them in making informed choices regarding personal and social issues; and to develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.

Department Ethos

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead (American Anthropologist)

"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you." - B. B. King (American Blues Guitarist, Songwriter)

Department Staff

Ms S Hamit - Head of Department

Mr H Gafar - 2nd in Department

Mrs C Hylton

Key Stage 3 Information

At KS3 students follow a philosophy course, requiring students to develop and use their skills of enquiry and reasoning. Students are encouraged to question and debate the various topics under discussion. Students are also introduced to ethical matters which link to topics in the GCSE course.

Key Stage 4 Information

All students take the GCSE RS exam. Students study the Eduqas Religious Studies Route A.

The course has three components. The first being the study of contemporary moral issues, the second being a study of Christianity, and the third being a study of Islam.

Teachings and views discussed are non-denominational, with students encouraged to compare and contrast the different viewpoints, for example Roman Catholic and Protestant views on divorce or Sunni and Shia views on abortion; in addition we also look at and discuss Humanist views. Students are encouraged to develop their analytical skills throughout the course, taking on board and understanding, different religious and social views on topics covered.

The course has no coursework, with students taking three exams at the end of year 11; one being 1hr45 and two being 1hr, with the whole grade range open to all students.

GCSE skills are introduced in key stage 3, and subsequently developed during key stage

Students are encouraged to develop their analytical skills throughout the course, taking on board and understanding, the different religious and social topics covered.

Key Stage 5 Information

We are currently investigating Key Stage 5 courses which can be offered by the department.

Any other Information

Students are:

Expected to read newspapers/watch news reports or listen to new bulletins on the radio, and, keep up to date on issues both within the UK and abroad.

Encouraged to supplement their classroom learning, through wider reading on the topics covered.

Supported in using and developing their literacy skills in order to develop their learning, and progress within the subject.

It is expected that students arrive at lessons on time, and with all the necessary equipment they require for the lesson.

Students are encouraged to think outside of the box!

Homework

RS homework is generally set twice a half term. Homework tasks are set by individual teachers, determined by the individual needs of the class.

Alongside this, students may find that their class teacher may give them small tasks to supplement their learning.