

# Sir Roger Manwood's School

## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Department

There are two full time members of the Religion, Philosophy and Ethics Department, and one English teacher who teaches the Year 7 Core RE course.

This post has arisen due to the retirement of the current Head of Department after more than 30 years at the School.

The department is mutually supportive, sharing in the responsibility for the progress of all of the pupils in its care, especially as all classes are shared at both GCSE and A Level.

The department is based in two classrooms. Both classrooms are equipped with non-interactive white boards and projectors.

Core Religious Education is delivered in Key Stage 3 in 2 hours a fortnight and 1 hour a fortnight in Key Stage 4.

Religious Studies is a popular option at both GCSE and A Level. In Years 10 and 11, students have 5 hour long periods a fortnight. They follow the AQA Religious Studies A specification, focussing on Christianity and Islam. In Years 12 and 13, students have 9 one hour periods a fortnight. They follow the OCR Religious Studies H573 specification focusing on the Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics, and Developments in Religious Thought (which is currently Islam). The current Head of Department teaches Religion and Ethics and Developments in Islamic Thought units in both Year 12 and 13.

Current numbers for GCSE Religious Studies are 50 in Year 10 and 45 in Year 11. Those for A Level Religious Studies are 13 in Year 12 and 13 in Year 13. Many students grow to have a real enthusiasm for the study of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics, and go on to study a related degree.

Philosophy is offered at A Level but it does not run every year as numbers are not always high enough. When it does, the specification followed is AQA Philosophy. It will not be running in Year 12 next year.

The Head of RE also co-ordinates the Monday, Wednesday and Friday 'school' assemblies (two year groups each day), and several school events, namely Harvest Assembly and Remembrance, Christmas and Founder's Day Services. Each of these involves liaising with the Rector of St Clement's Church in Sandwich, which has enjoyed a very close relationship with the school ever since its foundation in 1563 as the Rector is always a governor of the school.

The Head of RE also runs Junior and Senior Charity Committees and organises 3 events for local senior citizens each year – a sit down 3 course Christmas lunch cooked by our caterers, and Easter and Summer Tea Parties.