



Bennett

Memorial Diocesan School

Religious Education Curriculum Area – Teacher of Religious Education

The RE team currently consists of seven specialist teachers of Religious Education.

Religious Education occupies a special place at Bennett as a Church of England School. All pupils study KS3 Religious Education in years 7-9 and then continue to study full course GCSE in years 10 and 11. Examination results are outstanding with students typically securing 80%+ 9-5 and 50%+ 9-7. Uptake of Religious Studies and Philosophy at A level is very healthy and here, too, results are strong.

The timetable currently provides two hour-long lessons of RE per fortnight in years 7 and 8, 4 lessons in year 9 and five lessons at GCSE. The team also provide two hour-long lessons of philosophy a fortnight in years 7 and 8. This philosophy programme is a bespoke course developed by the RS team with the aim of introducing students to the major debates in ethics and the philosophy of religion. Lessons are now largely taught in mixed ability groups at all key stages. A large proportion of students come from families within the Anglican or other Christian traditions. We aim to encourage each student to develop their individual understanding and spiritual awareness with an open-ended approach in discussion and study.

At GCSE, for the 2016 specification, we have elected to study AQA's Religious Studies A focusing on Christianity and Islam. The thematic elements that are studied are: Relationships and the Family; Religion and life; Religion, crime and punishment; Religion, peace and conflict. At A level, for Religious Studies, we will be following the new AQA 2016 specification (7062) following Christianity and the philosophy of religion and Christianity and ethics. For Philosophy, we also follow AQA's specification.

The Religious Education team are active collaborators in preparing resources and approaches to teaching. For example, they work together to plan for and to deliver both schemes of work and aspects of the school's Year 13 RE study days, which ensure the delivery of an entitlement to Religious Education in the sixth form.

Bennett is strongly committed to developing teachers professionally, and believes that all staff should have an active and positive role to play in the development of policy and practice. As a designated Teaching School Hub for Kent we can offer a wide range of professional development opportunities both within Bennett and our network of secondary schools. These include the full range of National Professional Qualifications as well as full Early Career Induction.

Bennett is a Church of England school, and it is expected that all staff support the school's distinctive ethos in their professional role.