

The Charles Dickens School

Religion & Sociology Department

The Department of Religion Education & Sociology has two dedicated classrooms with other rooms available for teaching. Both classrooms have a Smartboard. The department has a comprehensive range of resources to support innovative and interactive lesson planning. Lessons are created and developed using 'Thinking Schools' initiatives, and in line with a Critical RE pedagogical approach. Course textbooks, DVDs, software, games, and lesson materials are available to ensure that students have access to accurate and stimulating sources of information. The teaching team in the department are keen to share skills and ideas to develop excellent teaching and learning, with centrally stored resources available for all topics. There are bookable computer rooms available to support and extend student learning.

RE and Sociology lessons are created to support students' knowledge, understanding and evaluative skills in relation to beliefs, morality, and personal well-being issues. Planning across the key stages supports aspects of PSHEE, Citizenship and SMSC.

Through RE and Sociology, students must be encouraged to strive for excellence by:

- learning, articulating and appreciating reasons for different points of view including developing their own
- developing the written skills to explain key religious beliefs and teaching, their ideas, and use arguments supported by relevant evidence (from a range of different sources)
- working independently as well as participating effectively in group and class activities
- being prepared for the challenges, roles and responsibilities of adult life

Assessments: All students will need to be assessed at regular intervals in line with the School's Assessment Policy and examinations criteria at KS4. All assessments are recorded electronically. Classwork, homework, unit tests and the end of year examinations are designed to support this process.

Key Stage 3

All Year 7 and 8 have RPE lessons across a two week timetable. (2 x 60 minute lessons a fortnight)

Aims:

- The KS3 RPE Curriculum will allow to reflect on their own beliefs (religious or otherwise)
- Students will understand a range of different perspectives on life
- Students will demonstrate a knowledge of and respect for different people's faith, feelings and values.
- Students will have an appreciation for their own cultural development
- Students will have an ability to recognise and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities.
- Students will understand how religion, culture and sacred texts can help shape identity and understanding of the world
- Students will understand how beliefs in action can be used to manifest change or operate as social protest.

Content Learnt Year 7:

Term 1: Judaism:

Term 2: Christianity: Who was Jesus?

Term 3: Islam: the 5 pillars

Term 4: Hinduism: monotheistic or polytheistic?

Term 5: Sikhism: equality

Term 6: Buddhism: the path to enlightenment

Content Learnt Year 8:

Term 1: Relationships and Families

Term 2: Religion and Life

Term 3: Arguments for the Existence of God

Term 4: Religion, Peace and Conflict

Term 5: Religion, Crime and Punishment

Term 6: Human Rights and Social Justice

Key Stage 4

All Year 9, 10 and 11 students are preparing AQA Religious Studies A: Christianity and Islam (Year 9 – 11 have 5 x 60 minute lessons a fortnight.)

Aims

- The KS4 RPE Curriculum will allow to reflect on their own beliefs (religious or otherwise)
- Students will have an appreciation for their own cultural development
- Students will have an ability to recognise and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities.
- Students will understand how religion, culture and sacred texts can help shape identity and understanding of the world to actively reflect, investigate and make meaning of relationships, the world and God.

Content Learnt Year 9:

Term 1/2: Christianity: key beliefs

Term 3/4: Christianity: key practices

Term 5/6: Islam: key beliefs

Content Learnt Year 10:

Term 1/2: Islam: key practices

Term 3: Relationships and Families

Term 4: Religion and life

Term 5: Arguments for the Existence of God

Term 6: Religion, Peace and Conflict

Content Learnt Year 11:

Term 1: Religion, Crime and Punishment

Term 2: Human Rights and Social Justice

Term 3/4: Review of learning and preparing for examination

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