

Curriculum Time

All students will receive two hours per week of Religious Studies. At least 50% of this time will be dedicated to learning about and from Christianity predominantly through the Understanding Christianity resources, while the remainder will engage with other religions and world views. KS3 will run in line with the Academy to including year 7 and 8. KS4 students will all study a Full Course GCSE in Religious Studies over year 9, 10 and 11. This provision gives our students 8% of their curriculum time dedicated to Religious Studies which meets the requirements of the Church of England.

Staffing

RS will be taught, where possible, by subject specialist teachers. Where class splits between two teachers are inevitable, due to timetable constraints, each teacher will deliver independent units in order to maintain consistency in content.

Staff will have access to CPD to develop their pedagogy and subject knowledge. Staff will continue to engage with new developments in RS teaching and subject content, working closely with each other, other RS Departments and the diocese.

The Department will continue to welcome PGCE Trainee Teachers from York Saint John University and will offer additional training through the University to support the on-going partnership between the University and Academy.

Grouping

At KS3, students will be taught in their form groups. These are mixed ability.

At KS4, groups will be organised by the RS Department taking into account a wide range of considerations. The RS Department will liaise with both the English Department and Welfare Team in putting these groups together. Changes may be made to these groups in order to give each cohort the best possibility to succeed.

Able, Gifted and Talented and SEND Students

Student attainment will be discussed regularly at department meetings to ensure all students are known. The RS Department will engage thoroughly with student data within their classes. Lessons will be planned in order to support and challenge students in their learning.

RS Teachers will work closely with the Learning Support Department and Teaching Assistants in respective classes in order to ensure work is accessible to all students. This may take the form of whole school training highlighting student needs, department discussions, and oral/digital liaison with class/student Teaching Assistants.

Where students are identified as Gifted and Talented, RS teachers will take this into account when planning lessons. In cases where students are performing to a high standard, student names will be passed onto the Lead

Assessment Recording and Reporting:

Across the year groups, students will be assessed in a formal end of unit assessment at least once a term. Books and other classwork will be marked at least twice a half term and students will be given time to make improvements to work when feedback is given. End of unit assessment data will be recorded centrally in the department and will inform school reports.

Throughout each unit other assessed work will be set which will allow students to develop skills to contribute towards their end of unit assessments. At KS4 students will complete at least two exam style questions within each unit over and above the end of unit assessment. Across both key stages, homework will be set that contributes to the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge within the particular unit being studied at the time. Homework will vary in length and clear instruction and support will be given to students for them to succeed in tasks to be completed outside of the classroom.

Students in KS4 will complete mock exams each year. This will include content covered throughout the GCSE course. At Year 11 Students will complete two mocks to reflect the two components of the GCSE. Comprehensive revision materials will be provided through the RS Department.

Beyond the classroom:

Academy values of Serving Others, Growing Together and Living Life to the Full. At KS3, students will engage with the Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award and complete three pieces of action in their local communities to work towards being the change they want to see.

The RS Department works closely with outside agencies, individual professionals and people of faith, of Christian and other faiths, from the community. Continued efforts are made to arrange visitors who will complement the Departments schemes of work and enhance the students learning experience.

The RS Department will continue to pursue opportunities for students to visit places of religious and spiritual significance. Examples of trips offered could include visits to Holy Redeemer, the opportunity to visit Krakow, linking closely with their work studying the Human Rights and Social Justice Theme of their GCSE and support for the year 10 Taize Pilgrimage.

Withdrawal

Parents/Carers of students in the Academy are permitted to request that their child is withdrawn from receiving all or part of religious education and/or collective worship given at the school and any such request shall stand

Appendix A

Type and frequency of feedback and homework by Key Stage: Religious Studies

KS3