



Religious Education Department Information

An Introduction to the Department

Religious Education at St Laurence aims to allow young people to acquire a better understanding of the role that religions play in today's pluralistic world. The need for such education will continue to grow as different cultures and identities interact with each other through travel, commerce, media or migration. We are a department of 6 specialist teachers. There is a strong culture of CPLD within the department. Teachers are given the time and expertise to develop their practice through team meetings focused CPLD and sharing good practice.

Teaching

At KS3 RE is given 3 hours per fortnight and is taught thematically in line with the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus. We cover a range of topics, which include "What does it mean to be Moral?", "What does it mean to be religious?", "What does it mean to be happy?" and many more. RE is multidisciplinary in line with the OFSTED research review. The progression model in Ks3 is based on comparative marking and not complicated rubrics. In addition, we use a wide range of formative and summative assessment strategies that are not based solely on a long form GCSE style assessment

At KS4 most students take GCSE Philosophy and Ethics Eduqas Route B. Other students are taught ASDAN Beliefs and Values. Result for GCSE are consistently above national average, with students achieving 86 percent 9-4.

At KS5 students are taught AQA Philosophy A level, which includes units such as Metaphysics of Mind, God, Epistemology and Morality.

Although GCSE is non statutory compulsory GCSE, enjoyment is high and A level numbers have been increasing over the last 2 years.

Learning Outside the Classroom – Enrichment Activities

KS5 students are given the opportunities to visit Poland and Auschwitz 1 and 2. We also offer a range of holocaust education enrichment, which allows students to join online memorial events and after school clubs studying the holocaust education.

We are also developing new trips, which include visits to Shepton Mallet Prison and an Art and RE trip exploring life's big questions

Environment

Most staff have a dedicated RE classroom and access to RE today, for the most up to date resources. We also have a strong culture of CPLD, where staff can access a wide range of resources. These resources are inspired by writes such as Tom Bennet, Doug Lemov, Judith Hockman, Natalie Wexler and Daisy Christodoulou