

## “Valuing Individuals, Celebrating Differences”

The Religious Studies Department is currently made up of five specialists who work collaboratively to provide an excellent learning environment for all our students. The department is led by a Head of Department and a Second in Department. All specialists teach across the key stages including A-Level, and outstanding subject knowledge is a key feature of the department.

The RS department at King Edwards aims to provide a fully inclusive learning environment where all students feel happy and safe in expressing their own individuality. We aim to provide students with opportunities to engage with a wide variety of social and cultural issues that are at the center of the world today. Provisions are made for students to interact and learn from various religious traditions whilst recognizing the importance of developing their own spirituality and morality.

Our key Stage 3 curriculum is creative and dynamic. Students in Year 7 are allocated an hour per week of religious studies. They begin the course by delving into different concepts surrounding God from the different world religions. The rest of the year we introduce key beliefs and concepts that are essential for their journey in studying religious beliefs and other world views.

Year 8 students are allocated three hours per fortnight of religious studies. Creativity is at the heart of our curriculum with students this year being given opportunities to design model Gurdwaras and a wide range of presentation tasks.

Recognizing the growing maturity of our students, being able to tackle more complex moral dilemmas Year 9 students start the AQA Full course, which will be taught over three years. Students are allocated three hours per fortnight of RS in Year 9.

Students in Year 10 continue with the AQA syllabus exploring Beliefs, Teachings and Practices in Hinduism with Thematic Studies taught at the end of year and continuing into Year 11.

We currently offer an A-Level in Philosophy, Ethics and Developments in Christian Thinking (Religious Studies). These are highly academic subjects and viewed positively at university. There are currently two classes in each year group, usually with around 11- 15 students in each class taking the subject each year.

The RS Department has a strong team ethos; we enjoy a culture where staff readily share resources and are willing to learn from each other. We are keen for the department to maintain a high profile within the school and the local area, sharing and developing good practice.

Applicants are welcome from both experienced colleagues and Early Career Teachers. Visits to the school prior to application are welcome but not essential.