**BACUP AND RAWTENSTALL GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**Religious Studies Department**

**General Overview**

The Religious Studies Department at BRGS is a collaborative and academically successful department, committed to ongoing professional training and development, having strong links with Manchester University. It consists of 3 graduate specialist teachers who can teach the full range of the Religious Studies curriculum.

The teaching of Years 7-13 takes place in a subject specialist teaching rooms which enables us to provide excellent teaching and learning. All of our classrooms boast interactive whiteboards that are supported by computers and which are linked directly to the Internet. DVD and audio equipment is also available for use in all teaching rooms. Additionally, a comprehensive range of resources are available to enable effective delivery of all units of work for all Key Stages and there are a wide range of text books available to students.

Religious Studies is a popular subject at BRGS and students are well engaged with their learning. At KS3 we begin with a Foundation course in the six main world religions. We then proceed to a more thematic approach in Years 8/9 as we seek to develop a more philosophical and ethical understanding of the subject.

Religious Studies is an option subject at GCSE and has a good uptake at KS4. We follow the full-course Edexcel specification (Religious Studies B – Religion and Ethics through Christianity; Religion, Peace and Conflict through Islam). There is an excellent record of achievement at GCSE over many years.

Unsurprisingly, therefore, we have a keen uptake of the subject at A level also. We follow the Eduqas specification at A level and the three components of the course are Christianity (as chosen religion), Philosophy, and Ethics. Candidates would be expected to deliver high quality teaching over all three components and will have a key role with regard to A level responsibility.

While department schemes of work are followed by all teachers, these are flexible enough for individuals to develop their own teaching and learning resources for Key Stage 3, 4 and 5. Colleagues are actively encouraged to share good practice with others, and to continually develop their own practice ensuring challenge and engagement are at its core.

Religious Studies is most certainly an academic subject in its own right at BRGS and has a high standing within the school. You will be joining an enthusiastic, committed and supportive department.