

Religious Education Supports the Citizens of the Future

Religious Education provides opportunities to promote “British Values” and the spiritual, moral, and social development of pupils as they:

- learn about and reflect on the concepts, values and beliefs that are at the heart of religious and cultural traditions and practices
- consider how other faiths, religions and worldviews perceive the value of human beings, their relationships with one another, with the natural world and with God
- develop curiosity and imagination through reflection on beauty, goodness, truth and the scope and nature of human life.

Religious Education provides opportunities for personal reflection to:

- express, explore and test pupils’ own beliefs, views and ideas in response to “BIG questions” on religious, spiritual and ethical issues,
- to learn about those of fellow pupils, helping them to develop a positive and realistic sense of their own religious, moral and spiritual ideas, as part of their personal identity and belonging
- and to develop confidence by recognising their own uniqueness and affirming their self-worth through sharing their own beliefs and opinions without fear of embarrassment or ridicule while at the same time learning to respect the right of others to their own beliefs.

“I can understand other people better locally and globally. Also so that you know how to treat people of other religions respectfully... and helps you understand emotions and beliefs.”

Lily, Y7

Religious Education can develop pupils' aspirations for life, help equip them for a wide range of employment opportunities and experiences, preparing them to engage with the moral, cultural and ethical issues linked with the world of work.

Religious Education can also encourage their willingness to learn and gain new understanding, and develop in them a wish to improve own learning and performance through setting targets as part of RE development, reviewing their achievements and identifying ways to improve their work as well as developing a safer and healthier lifestyle by learning about the teachings of different religions and worldviews about, for example, relationships, drugs misuse, food and drink.

Religious Education can also develop personal integrity and a sense of responsibility by learning about what is fair and unfair, right and wrong, and by engaging with issues of truth, trust and justice and a range of ethical issues. It can help pupils gain a sense of conscience through considering the importance of rights, responsibilities and duties of individual citizens, whether religious and not, and what it means to respect the laws of the land.

Religious Education can enhance the valuing diversity whilst recognising and exploring the relationship between State and religious laws. It can develop the understanding that by law everyone is free to hold, practise and change their own religious or non-religious beliefs.

“So we know how we came to be and the history behind religions. I like learning about... people...and how their choices impacted our lives”

Rameesa, Y7