

St Richard's Catholic College

RE POLICY



The Policy was approved by the Governing Body: October 2024

Chair of Governors: _____

The Governing Body will review the policy in October 2025

Our aims (Intent)

Through our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, our pupils will have a desire to know, understand, and engage with the Faith in a mature and critical way. In knowing the Faith well, pupils will be able to articulate knowledge and write it with academic rigour [*‘to know you more clearly’*]. In understanding the Faith more deeply, pupils will become more loving, respectful, and empathetic citizens [*‘to love you more dearly’*]. In engaging with the Faith, pupils will be inspired to cultivate its practices in their personal journeys through life [*‘to follow you more nearly’*].

How we do it (Implementation)

The classroom experience in RE will allow pupils to encounter and reflect on the rich treasures of the Catholic Faith as well as the wisdom from other world religions. Lessons will always feature opportunities for discussion, questioning, critical thinking and listening. Pupils will also be equipped with the skills of oracy enabling them to develop their knowledge and articulation of religious issues so they can accurately defend and justify their viewpoint. Furthermore, the feedback pupils receive will promote critical thinking and challenge. Pupils will receive opportunities to meet people of faith and learn from them through dialogue. Pupils’ faith will be nurtured through regular prayer and a classroom culture that shows an openness to embrace prayer with confidence and sensitivity.

How we teach (Learning Levers)

The teaching and learning foci of ‘learning levers’ promoted across the school facilitate sustained pupil progress and attainment. The Key Stage 3 and 4 curricula are knowledge-rich and so pupils are supported with their learning through regular and rigorous retrieval practice to improve memory recall. Emphasis is placed on giving high quality feedback (both ‘live’ and in written work) to pupils so they can fully grasp how to develop their work. Demonstration of accurate work through modelling also facilitates pupils to better understand a success criteria and apply their knowledge skilfully to evaluative questions. Tasks set in RE lessons are collaboratively planned to allow pupils of all abilities to be successful and understand how to achieve the learning outcomes of a lesson. Our specialist TA enables pupils with SEND to access tasks more easily and succeed in them. As well as this, the most able pupils are encouraged to develop and expand their knowledge through questions designed to stretch and challenge thinking.

How we know (Impact)

The RE curriculum is rich in knowledge and is structured around cumulative learning from Year 7. Pupils’ knowledge and understanding is deepened each curriculum year. The Religious Education Directory (2023) presents the Faith in a scheme of work that examines and magnifies the narrative of the Christian story- a history of salvation. The Key Stage 3 curriculum in turn leads to the GCSE curriculum which builds again on a knowledge of Catholicism, its beliefs, practices, sources of authority and forms of expression. Additionally, pupils then study a Philosophy and Ethics module which explores the philosophical arguments for God’s existence and moral issues around human sexuality in light of the Catholic tradition. Pupils also study the beliefs and practices of the Islamic faith.

RE lessons

In KS3 pupils follow the RED (with year 9 on the RECD and they will do the RED in Sep 2025).

In KS4 pupils complete the Edexcel A Catholic Christianity with Islam.

Pupils have three lessons of RE a week in four dedicated RE rooms. Pupils all get one piece of homework a week. The length of this homework depends on the year of the pupil (see below)

Year 7	30 minutes per homework
Year 8	35 minutes per homework
Year 9	45 minutes per homework
Years 10 – 11	60 minutes per homework and revision

Pupils are assessed termly with an end of unit test and an assessed task during the term. These are teacher marked as well as peer marked.