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| **Humanities Department Description** |

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| **Information for Applicants** |
| Brooke Weston Academy is an innovative, nationally acclaimed educational establishment. Our philosophy and approach is embedded in student-centred learning, underpinned by a structured framework of assessment that has differentiation and personalisation at its heart. Opened in 1991, Brooke Weston Academy has consistently appeared in the top rank of state comprehensive schools. On average this year 89% in Year 11 achieved GCSEs graded A\*-C (9-4) with 28% gaining A\*/A (9-7) grades. 84% of students in year 11 achieved five or more GCSEs graded A\*-C including maths and English (9-4). 51% of students achieved the English Baccalaureate with maths and English grades 9-5. In Year 13 students achieved 99% pass rate with 62% gaining A\*/A or B grades.  Brooke Weston Academy has exceptionally high standards and works hard to preserve the ethos, which places the student at the heart of the learning experience. Our OfSTED report of January 2011 confirmed Brooke Weston Academy’s outstanding reputation and highlighted, amongst other aspects, the positive relationships between staff and students and the outstanding learning opportunities available. |
| **The Departmental Structure** |
| The humanities department consists of a team of ten teachers, with specialisms in history, geography, religious education/philosophy and ethics, psychology and sociology. The department is situated in a suite of well-equipped classrooms with access to a bank of 25 laptops. All classrooms are equipped with an Interactive White Board with access to the Academy’s network.  The department makes use of whole Academy facilities, which include a modern lecture seating up to 100 students, well-equipped library/resource centre, which also contains a large number of laptops for student use and a full sized theatre seating up to 500 students. |
| **Teaching and Learning** |
| Our students are encouraged to become highly motivated, independent learners and are able to learn through differentiated learning activities at four levels. This allows them to develop high levels of knowledge, skills and technological understanding. Students are taught in mixed ability groups at all key stages. Students’ work is carefully monitored and assessed regularly and they are involved in individual target setting.  Throughout the academic year, the department arranges a variety of visits to support the curriculum e.g. religious sites and places of worship, such as Coventry Cathedral, Hunstanton, Duxford Imperial War Museum, Houses of Parliament, The Holocaust Centre, Mountfitchet Castle, The Black Country Museum, and Norfolk. |
| **Courses** |
| In Key Stage 3, all students receive one lesson of history, geography and religious education each week. RE is known at Brooke Weston as BPE (Beliefs, Philosophy and Ethics). The KS3 RE course is based on the locally agreed syllabus with foci on developing skills and understanding for future courses. In Key Stages 4 and 5 courses are delivered where ever possible by a subject specialist. At GCSE, the department delivers history, geography and religious education. At A level, students may opt to study history, geography, philosophy and ethics, sociology and psychology. The current RE GCSE is AQA ‘Religion and Morality’ and ‘Philosophy and Ultimate Questions’, the plans are to continue with this following recent GCSE ratifications. The current RE A level being studied is OCR ‘Philosophy and Ethics’, however, there are plans to change to Edexcel once the course has been ratified. |