

Wheatley Park School

Religious Education

The Religious Education department is situated in the main school and has two teaching rooms close to main reception. There are currently two Religious Education teachers, Jo Wakefield (Head of Department) and Bishop Andrew Shergold. Jo has been at Wheatley since 2000 and the Bishop since 2005 and both have been teaching RE enthusiastically for many years. RE is known for being a friendly and warm department and many of the students who have taken RE at GCSE or A level have stayed in touch for years after leaving. RE is a well equipped department and as well as the students having their own personal chromebooks, teaching rooms have a digital projector, whiteboards and desktop computer. We also have a wonderful array of up to date RE textbooks, and many resources now available for access on the google drive. As well as many multi-media presentations and carefully written schemes of work, the department has its own well-stocked DVD library and new titles are added regularly. The department has its own office where artefacts and other equipment are stored and there is also use of the Humanities Tea Room and an office which stores artefacts, textbooks and other equipment.

Key Stage 3 and 4

All students are taught RE in Year 7 and 8 for one hour per week and schemes have been written based on units from the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus. These cover philosophical, ethical and religious content. Year 9 students also have RE lessons as part of a carousel titled, "Religion, Philosophy and Ethics".



Year 7: Philosophy of Religion, Hinduism, Jesus, Moral Issues, Biblical Studies and Environmental Concerns

Year 8: Sikhism, Gandhi, Christianity, Martin Luther King, Buddhism and the Problem of Evil and Suffering/The C S Lewis Story

Year 9: Religion, Philosophy and Ethics: Identity, Medical Ethics, Racism.

GCSE: EdExcel Religious Studies B: Christianity and Islam



Students are taught in their tutor groups in Year 7 and in mixed groups in Years 8 and 9. The curriculum lays down important skills for those wishing to take the subject at GCSE, and also gives students a broad education of knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other religions. Those students who choose Religious Studies GCSE have a 'bridging year' in Year 9 where they study belief, practice and ethical issues from Islamic and Christian perspectives. Important skills are honed in this year so that students are ready for the demands of the GCSE.

Key Stage 5

Religious Studies A level is currently taught using the Eduqas specification with three components: Philosophy, Ethics and Christianity. Groups are small but friendly and the department is well resourced. We pride ourselves in the care and personal attention that students receive from us. Students often go on to take Philosophy or related subjects at degree level and remark on how well the department prepares them for their university studies.