



Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) at Bablake

RPE at Bablake is a thriving subject. There are currently four members of staff in the department. Between us we have a wide range of expertise in religion and philosophy and are all committed to contributing to the wider life of the school. Besides the outgoing Head of Department, one department member is the Chaplain, another is Head of Sixth Form Enrichment and the other is Head of Life Choices (PSHCE). We welcome and support pupils from all faiths and none, encouraging respect, honesty and lively debate in the classroom and beyond.

Pupils receive three or four fifty minute lessons per fortnight at KS3. We teach the six world religions, alongside ethical topics such as prejudice and discrimination, terrorism, crime and punishment and philosophical topics such as life after death and the origins of the universe.

Religions Studies is a popular GCSE: typically, approximately half the year opt for the subject. We teach the AQA A syllabus, specialising in Christianity and Buddhism:
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062>. Results are generally very good: for example, in 2022 75% of pupils achieved 9-7.

Uptake is also strong at A level, where we usually have two sets. We teach the Eduqas specification, specialising in Buddhism, alongside Philosophy of Religion and Religion and Ethics:

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies-as-a-level/#tab_keydocuments

Results are generally very good at A level too: in 2022 87% achieved A*-B.

We offer a number of trips to places of religious worship throughout the school: in a typical year, we visit a local gurdwara and Quaker meeting house, Coventry Cathedral, a mosque, synagogue, Catholic church and Buddhist temple in Birmingham and the National Holocaust Museum in Nottinghamshire. We currently run two lunchtime societies, junior and senior Philosophy Clubs, and there is a strong pupil-led 'Faith Council.'

We have three dedicated RPE classrooms, including a dedicated A level teaching room, designed with the dynamic and discursive nature of the subject in mind.

Our school community is very diverse and inclusive, which makes it a very rewarding place to teach RPE.