



TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

THE SCHOOL

Leicester Grammar School is a selective, co-educational independent day school of 850 pupils founded in 1981 to fill a gap in the provision of education in Leicester left by the closure of the city's flourishing state grammar schools. The School has built up a national reputation for academic excellence, regularly featuring amongst the top fifty independent schools in the annual A-level league tables and consistently succeeding in helping its pupils to secure places at the very best universities in the United Kingdom and abroad.

Leicester Grammar School's public examination results are frequently amongst the very best in the East Midlands and often place them amongst the best schools in the country. In 2018, 78% of the grades achieved were at A*/B level with over 40% being A* or A grades. Six candidates achieved four A* grades and almost a quarter of the candidates gained all A* or A grades. The excellent results, in line with many previous years' results of a similarly very high level, allow the overwhelming majority of the pupils to go on to take up their first choice university courses. LGS was also nominated for two TES awards in 2015, winning one; and for three TES awards in 2018. Underpinning these academic successes is a caring community based upon a Christian ethos that offers an extensive extra-curricular portfolio, including strong provision in music, sport and drama.

The School entered a new and very exciting stage in its development in September 2008 when it relocated to a 75-acre green-field site in the village of Great Glen, which is about seven miles south east of Leicester and a similar distance from the thriving market town of Market Harborough. The School is a state of the art facility for the 21st century, featuring extensive playing fields, a large main sports hall and an indoor 25 metre swimming pool amongst other sporting facilities. Its main hall can seat 1,000 people, and the main building boasts other large performance spaces, an impressive library at its centre and modern teaching rooms. Each department has its own suite of classrooms linked to a departmental office and the Science wing comprises 15 laboratories and a 96-seat lecture theatre. In September 2015, the School completed a £4 million building extension to provide a new Science Lecture Theatre, Sixth Form Common Room, senior management office suite and meeting rooms; other developments are planned.

The School has excellent local transport links, with both London and Birmingham under an hour away by train. Market Harborough, situated 10 miles south of Great Glen, was recently voted as one of the 'Best Places to Live' by The Sunday Times.

Leicester Grammar School Trust is an educational trust overseeing three schools: Leicester Grammar School, Leicester Grammar Junior School and Stoneygate School. With the recent departure of our Previous Chief Executive, who has become Chief Executive of IAPS, the Trust has appointed John Watson, currently the Headmaster at Bablake School, as its new Chief Executive from April 2019.

THE POST

We are seeking an enthusiastic and motivated specialist Religious Studies teacher to join our popular, high-achieving and forward-thinking department on a full time basis from September 2019. The successful candidate will be expected to teach throughout the School, up to and including A Level, and to continue to raise standards through innovative and creative leadership and passion for the subject.

THE DEPARTMENT

The RS Department currently consists of three full time and one part time specialist members of staff. The Department has three dedicated classrooms which are equipped with whiteboards, DVDs, text books and religious artefacts. One of the classrooms has an interactive smart board. The Department uses a range of electronic resources and enables students to make use of these resources through the school intranet. The Department Office is shared with the Geography Department and houses a selection of books and paper resources. The Library has an excellent selection of philosophical, ethical and religious texts and magazines including an annual subscription to RE Today magazine, RS Review and Dialogue magazines.

Religious Studies is an established, popular and successful subject at LGS. Studying RS enables us to ask about the most important parts of being human and pose questions such as, 'What is the meaning of life?', 'Does God exist?', 'Is there life after death?' and 'Am I real?' The Department hopes to sow the seeds of critical inquiry through our teaching and develop the skills of analysis, discussion and debate.

THE CURRICULUM

The subject is taught throughout the lower school for two 35 minute lessons a week. In Year 7 we consider the importance of holding certain beliefs and study Islam, Christianity and Judaism. In Year 8 students consider the History of the Early Christian Church and engage in a systematic study of Hinduism and Sikhism. In Year 9 students study arguments for and against the existence of God, a study of Buddhism and begin one of the GCSE themes, Religion and Life.

GCSE

GCSE Religious Studies is a popular option and candidates currently study the new AQA Specification A: The Study of Christianity and Buddhism and Religious, Philosophical and Ethical Studies focusing on Religion and life, Religion peace and conflict, Religion crime and punishment and Religion human rights and social justice. These units give students the opportunity to study some of the most fundamental questions in philosophy, religion, morality and ethics.

- In 2018 66% of our students gained grade 9 and 94% gained 9/8/7 grades
- In 2017 80% of our students gained A*- A grades

There are currently 110 students studying GCSE Religious Studies in Years 10 and 11.

A Level

The course that is followed is OCR Level 3 Advanced GCE in Religious Studies (H573)

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion

Ancient philosophy; Plato and Aristotle; philosophical issues and questions; the nature and influence of religious experience; the problem of evil and suffering; religious language and the attributes of God.

Paper 2: Religion and Ethics

A study of a variety of ethical theories, applied ethics looking at business ethics, medical ethics and sexual ethics, the conscience and meta-ethics.

Paper 3: Developments in Christian Thought

The content for this paper comprises a focused and in-depth study of Christian theology.

The origin of sin, beliefs in life after death, knowledge of God, the teachings of Jesus, sources of morality, Christian responses to a pluralist society, liberation and feminist theology.

There are currently 35 students studying A level Religious Studies in Years 12 and 13 and projected numbers for next year's Year 12 stand at 39.

Previous A Level Results

	Number of students	A*/A	A*-B
2018	21	38%	81%
2017	20	35%	60%

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

- Outside speakers including representatives from different religious groups;
- We aim for one trip for each year group per year including an annual trip to the British Holocaust Centre, visits to a local Mandir, Mosque, Gurdwara, Church, Buddhist Centre and Synagogue;
- A Level conferences every year;
- An active and lively Christian Union.

CHILD WELFARE

Leicester Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with previous employers and DBS.

April 2019