

### INTENT: A powerful, knowledge-rich curriculum

**By the end of their education, a student of Religious Education at Dixons Fazakerley Academy will:**

- Appreciate the beliefs, values and customs of the major world faiths in an increasingly multicultural world, as well as understand how they influence individuals, communities and cultures around the world.
- Be able to interpret, debate, consider, analyse and evaluate religious, philosophical and ethical thinking.
- Reflect on their own spiritual, philosophical and ethical convictions, and gain a strong respect for the commonality and diversity amongst other beliefs, values and customs, so that they can make a special contribution to the world we live and share.

**Our unifying 'sentence' is: "The Religious Education department ensured that all pupils could express their own ideas about religious, philosophical and ethical concepts based on a wide-ranging understanding of the beliefs, customs and values of major world faiths".**

**In order to achieve a true understanding of Religious Education, topics have been intelligently sequenced based on the following rationale:**

- The level of rigour and challenge develops through the key stages and year groups and has been planned coherently towards building cumulative knowledge.
- The RE curriculum is built upon developing religious literacy. Key vocabulary is introduced via knowledge organisers and in lessons and is continually revisited and reinforced through continuous low-stakes quizzing. This helps with knowledge retention and allows for flexibility of application.
- Our curriculum is centred on three broad themes: belief about god, life after death and influence upon beliefs and actions. This organisation allows to support the development of scheme and enable students to retain knowledge in their long-term memory. This will also help with the notion that there are commonalities across religions.

**The Religious Education curriculum will address social disadvantage by addressing gaps in pupils' knowledge and skills:**

- Religious Education gives students rapid exposure to powerful knowledge that they may fail to encounter in their everyday lives; something which can provide pupils with real purpose in the ever-changing modern world.
- Religious Education also contributes towards the development of cultural capital, through exposure and familiarity with beliefs, values and customs from around the world that have shaped it into what it is today.
- Literacy is the key to education and a successful life, and Religious Education is a significant vehicle in promoting this. The subject depends on frequent application of tier II and III terminology which can enthuse and inspire students to engage with challenging and exciting material.

**We fully believe Religious Education can contribute to the personal development of students at DFA:**

- Religious Education as a subject requires pupils to think outside of their own frames of reference. This can greatly aid in pupils' own personal development. We want pupils to be lifelong learners that understand the world is forever adapting and changing, and we are part of that process.
- At DFA, we want pupils to be able to thrive in a rewarding career job and have a happy and purposeful life. To that end, Religious Education contributes significantly as an academic subject which creates a plethora of opportunities post-GCSE.
- The knowledge gained from the study of Religious Education can be a contributory factor towards tolerance and acceptance in modern society. As we expose students to diverse and varied experiences throughout the past, students begin to build up the tools needed in order to become positive citizens.

**At KS3 and KS4, our belief is that homework should be interleaved-revision of powerful knowledge that has been modelled and taught in lessons. This knowledge is recalled and applied through a range of low-stakes quizzing and practice.**

## Curriculum Principles: RE



**Opportunities are built in to make links to the world of work to enhance the careers, advice and guidance that students are exposed to:**

- Throughout all key stages, students will encounter a wide-range range of vocations.
- Each topic taught has a 'careers spotlight', where students will explore a profession linked to that particular unit of work.

**We teach beyond the specification requirements, but do ensure students are well prepared to be successful in GCSE examinations:**

- We promote resources linked to taught material and beyond, so that pupils can explore Religious Education out of genuine interest rather than as a school subject.
- The department will arrange for external trips that can allow pupils to develop the knowledge they have acquired.

### **Further Information**

For further information, please visit our school website and look at curriculum overview and long term plans to understand what you're child will be learning about at every stage of their RE curriculum journey. If you would like to ask any specific questions, please don't hesitate to speak to Mr Birch or Mr Ashcroft who will be happy to help in any way they can.