RELIGIOUS EDUCATION at RIPON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The R.E. Department is a busy, lively and developing area of the curriculum. We pride ourselves in the positive and caring relationship we have with our pupils and we try to engage their interest and teach in a challenging and creative manner. Year 7 pupils have one period and Year 8 & 9 pupils two periods each week out of a total of forty periods. All Year 10 & 11 pupils follow a one period a week non-examination course. There are currently two Full-Course GCSE classes in Year 11 and one in Year 10 (comprising a total of 53 pupils), taking OCR World Religions Papers in Buddhism and Christian Perspectives. Last year's GCSE results were very pleasing with 82% A*/A grades.

There are currently ten students studying the subject at A2 Level and 13 in the AS class, taking AQA papers in Buddhism, Ethics and Philosophy of Religion. Last year's level results were very good with 86% of pupils gaining A/B grades at AS level and 100% of pupils achieving A* - A at A2 level.

The Key Stage 3 curriculum is based on the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus and comprises a study of Philosophy, Religion & Ethics: -

Year 7 – Philosophy of Religion – Is there a God? – Are we alone in the universe? Year 8 –Islam and Hinduism – an in-depth study of these world religions.

Year 9 – The problem of evil and suffering and the life and teachings of Jesus All pupils in KS 4 follow a non-examination course in religion, philosophy and ethics.

There are two dedicated RE teaching rooms with digital projectors and interactive TV facilities. The Department is well resourced with a wide variety of textbooks, DVDs, and religious artefacts. The school has an excellent library and there are several dedicated IT facilities and rooms throughout the school.

The Department works with local Christian ministers, the Manchester Buddhist Centre, the British Humanist Association, Throssel Hole Zen Buddhist Abbey in Northumberland, the Theravada Insight Meditation Centre in New York, Regent's Park Mosque and the Swaminarayan Hindu Mandir in London and the Bhaktivedanta Manor Hindu Centre in Hertfordshire. Since 2003 we have had residential study weekends in Manchester for AS and A2 level students. We have also had two A Level study visits to New York. For the past ten academic years we have taken a Year 8 residential study visit to London in May.

The successful candidate would be expected to teach the subject throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 and also to share the teaching of GCSE and AS/A2 level.

Julian Clarke Head of RE

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