



## Religious Education

Religious Education at St Joseph's aims to create opportunities for pupils to develop spiritually and ethically and become aware of what religious commitment means in everyday life. Through our curriculum pedagogy our purpose is to help students in their journey of knowing, understanding, discerning, responding and engaging with religious and ethical questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs about God and the afterlife and what it means to be human. We aim to bring students to a personal knowledge of God through the experience of Christ and to lead them to an ever deeper understanding of our Catholic faith. As a Catholic Christian community, our focus is on Church and Gospel values in our modern world; furthermore, students will explore other Christian denominations and world religions such as Hinduism, Judaism and Islam, in recognition of the UK as a multi-faith and multicultural society and in the spirit of Pope Francis' invitation to develop a culture of 'dialogue and encounter'.

At KS3 Year 7 and Year 8 students follow the new RED programme. This is a spiral curriculum that enables learners to deepen their understanding and engagement with the Catholic faith and Gospel values as they grow and mature. In Year 7 students study the Creation accounts, the Bible and Church's teaching on the Bible, Incarnation and the Trinity, the Eucharist, Confirmation and Hinduism. In Year 8 students focus on the account of the Fall and Baptism, social justice and the prophets, the Kingdom of God, evil and suffering and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus' death and resurrection and Islam. Year 9 students continue to follow the People of God programme. This will change next academic year when the new RED programme will be extended to Year 9. Students study morality (secular and religious), Islam, pilgrimage, evil and suffering, religion and science and Judaism.

At KS4 students follow the WJEC Specification Catholic Theology and Judaism. Year 10 students focus on the Unit 1 syllabus and study Catholic core beliefs, teachings and practices and Jewish core beliefs, teachings and practices. Additionally, they study the philosophical themes of life and death and good and evil. Year 11 students follow the Unit 3 syllabus and study in further detail Catholic beliefs, teachings and practices and the ethical themes of relationships and human rights.

At KS5 students follow the ALevel WJEC Specification and focus on the study of Christianity, Ethics and Philosophy.