

Longdean School



Religious Education Policy

Reviewed: October 2014
Ratified: October 2014
Next review: October 2015

Religious Education Policy

Religious Education is taught to all students as part of the Social Sciences Programme in Year 7-11, and as part of a Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education course in Years 12 and 13. In Years 7 and 8 students follow the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. In Years 9, 10 and 11, students are taught the AQA (Specification B) “Beliefs, Questions and Issues” or “Truth and Spirituality Today” GCSE courses. Students in Years 12 and 13 may also opt to study RE at AS and A-Level and will, in this case, follow the OCR Religious Studies H172/H572 Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics course.

While a range of faith perspectives, including humanism is considered, in accordance with the Non-Statutory National Framework for RE the emphasis of Religious Education at Longdean School is on Christianity. The aim, however, is not to indoctrinate students into or out of any belief system, and is instead to impart skills of understanding and respect towards people of all religious perspectives, recognising that we live today in a multi-faith and multi-cultural society. Our aim is to encourage all students to reflect on their own beliefs and values, to think about how these affect their responses to contemporary social, moral and ethical issues, and to acknowledge that others hold beliefs and values different to their own.

In exceptional circumstances parents/guardians have the statutory right to withdraw their children from Religious Education lessons, and those wishing to exercise this right should communicate their request, in writing, to the Headteacher.