

RE Curriculum Statement of Intent

The principal aim of RE is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

At EGA we offer a pluralistic pedagogy of the RE curriculum, one that is diverse, critical and objective. We aim to create a desire in our students to have knowledge and understanding of the wider world, society, culture and real life experiences. The curriculum encourages students to develop their critical thinking and approach historical, socio-religious, philosophical and contemporary issues in order that they can make sense of the world around them and how it affects religious and non-religious lives. The curriculum fosters an appreciation of diversity within different religious and cultural traditions in contemporary Britain and the wider world. Students are given a variety of learning experiences, supported by workshops, seminars and trips, to give them a rich learning experience and to help them articulate ideas and beliefs, in order that they can hold meaningful discussions and dialogues with others.

Our curriculum is designed to engage students with challenging topics from exploring one's own philosophy of life to peace and conflict in the world. Students are encouraged to respect different religious and non-religious beliefs and teachings, whilst feeling confident to express their own opinion in order to challenge others, in controversial issues, without feeling intimidated.

[Key areas RE department at KS3 engages students in:](#)

Literacy:

- Highlighting key words/concepts
- Identifying evidence e.g. religious teachings/dogmatic statements
- Evaluating strengths and weaknesses of religious and nonreligious arguments

Subject knowledge:

Various topics and key questions (in light of the Islington SACRE) are explored to provide a holistic approach to religion and life, these include:

- What difference does it make to believe in (God)...?
- What is significant about key religious founders?
- Is Death the end? Does it matter?
- Is religion a power for peace or a cause of conflict in the world today?
- Does religion help people to be good?
- Should happiness be the purpose of life?
- Does living Biblically mean you have to obey the whole Bible?

- Do we need to prove the existence of God?

Key areas RE department at GCSE engages students in:

- Independent and self-regulated learning
- Navigating through materials and resources and essentially manage work load
- Work through a rigorous programme of study to ensure best outcomes are achieved
- Retrieval practices and making links with prior knowledge
- Application of key skills essential for success in the exams, e.g. using signposts, PEEL and the ability to think outside of the box!

Subject knowledge:

Students form the theological basis of the two growing religions of our time, Christianity and Islam.

The Ethics part of this GCSE lends itself well to the topical issues in present day society and current affairs. Topics include animal rights, science and religion, religion, crime and punishment and religion, peace and conflict.