

Head of Department: Ms K. Hunda

The study of religion is as relevant and fascinating now as it has ever been. In our complex and changing world, a firm understanding and appreciation of the world's different belief systems, cultures and philosophical arguments stand central to a well-rounded curriculum. We guide young people and encourage them to ask questions, whilst also teaching them fundamental knowledge and concepts. We explore key ethical questions and the main tenets of world faiths in order to support our young people in developing their own values and principles, and to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Central to the RS curriculum at Barclay Academy is our desire to develop informed, reflective, proactive and engaged young people, who have an appreciation of the world around them and a respect for people of all faiths or none.

KS3

Throughout their time in Years 7, 8 and 9, all students at Barclay Academy study the foundations of the world's main religions, as well as examining moral issues, ethics and philosophy. They explore the six main world religions; Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Christianity, and develop an understanding of these religions' place in our modern and multicultural society. Students develop an awareness of, and appreciation, about the spiritual, moral, social and cultural context of the world around them. They consider questions of both physical and metaphysical importance, alongside key ethical issues surrounding identity, human rights and social justice.

KS4

Students taking a GCSE in RS at Barclay Academy follow the AQA specification. This course allows them to build upon the spiritual, moral, social and cultural foundations which they developed in the Key Stage 3 studies, with a particular focus on Buddhism and Christianity. Students explore the diverse beliefs and practices of these religions, and have the opportunity to explore critically and reflectively their stance on numerous themes and ideologies such as war, prejudice, relationships and the environment. Crucially and invaluable, this course equips students with the ability to discuss and evaluate broad themes and issues, whilst simultaneously understanding their own position and responses to these same themes and issues.