

# Religious Studies



Religious Studies asks about meaning and purpose in life from beginning to end. It gives space for individual reflection and wondering who and why; it explores Christianity, other principal religions and world views and how they affect the fabric of personal and social life.

It is important for young people to acquire a better understanding of the role that religions play in today's world.

Religious Studies offers opportunities for pupils to:

- learn to understand and respect different religions, beliefs, values and traditions (including ethical life stances), and understand their influence on individuals, societies, communities and cultures;
- explore issues within, across and between faiths and consider questions of meaning and purpose in life;
- learn about religious and ethical teaching, enabling pupils to make reasoned and informed judgements on religious and moral issues;
- develop their sense of identity and belonging, preparing them for adult life as citizens in society, and
- develop skills of enquiry and response in analysis, expression, reflection, evaluation and application, through the use of distinctive language, listening and empathy.

## Religious Studies at Rishworth

The Religious Studies Department at Rishworth has two fully qualified members of staff. The subject is taught to each Year 7, 8 and 9 student on a fortnightly basis. The Department has its own teaching room which provides an excellent environment for learning. Mr. Gloag is responsible for the teaching and delivery of RS to Year 7 pupils and Mrs. McGarry is responsible for Year 8 and 9 pupils.

In RS, pupils acquire and apply their knowledge and understanding of:

- Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism.
- How these religions influence individuals, communities, societies of the world.
- The nature of belief, religion, philosophy and ethics.

**Outside the Classroom**

In RS we make full use of the School Chapel at every opportunity. In Years 8 and 9 the use of the Chapel is built into our Schemes of Work, looking at Church Buildings as well as Rites of Passage. As a Christian foundation School we have a visiting Chaplain who is able to provide regular worship and reflection sessions in the Chapel. We also have Services in the Chapel each half term which are very well attended by members of the Boarding Community as well as day pupils and parents.

Faith is extremely important and this is at the heart of our teaching in RS.