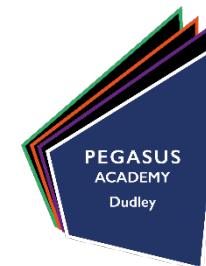


Pegasus Academy

Statement of Curriculum Intent – Religious Studies

2022/23



Religion and belief have been and continues to be important in the lives of many people, both in Britain and across the world, as well as highly visible in public life locally, nationally, and internationally. Even if you are an atheist, your understanding of the world today, the way people relate to each other, and why people behave and think as they do, will be severely lacking without some knowledge of religion and consideration of the social, moral, and ultimate questions, such as why we are here and what it means to be human, that religion concerns itself with.

How will this be achieved in our curriculum?

We support learners to understand more about religion; the leaders, teachings, beliefs, practices, and way of life of the principal world religions. Through investigations into different religions; beliefs and practices, differences and similarities, and responses to ethical issues and life's ultimate questions. We look to assist learners to arrive at an improved understanding as to the nature of religion and what belonging to a religion or ascribing to a particular set of ideals and values, means from the point of view of a believer. Units of work involve more than just providing learners with factual descriptive knowledge. Learners will be challenged to transcend the informative; to look beyond what is merely observable to understand what the real meaning and significance of what is taking place, and why things are done in the way that they do. We help learners understand why the followers of different religions choose to undertake certain practices or have the beliefs that they do.

We focus on helping learners learn from religion and support their wider personal development. Learners will be given time and support to reflect upon and express their own beliefs and values in response to the religious material that they come across. Learners will be encouraged to evaluate and assess whether the material they are studying can be applied to their own lives. We do not tell learners what they should think but instead assist them in self-examination, so that they test the basis of their beliefs, against a range of religious content as well as the contrasting views of others, and to then equip them with the tools to confidently explain how and why they have come to the opinions that they have. We aim to help learners to move beyond simply believing its ok to justify their beliefs and ideas to instead being aware of, and being able to articulate, the thinking and reasons underpinning these opinions and beliefs.

How does assessment fit in?

The Religious Studies curriculum is designed in a way to ensure that all learners, irrespective of their background or ability, have a good understanding of, and can make good progress in the two key focus areas outlined above. Religious Studies will also help learners to develop highly valued key transferable skills that will assist them throughout their lives.