



Cardinal
Newman
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

RE Department

Welcome to the RE Department - the 'heart of the school'

We hope that they will come to the knowledge that they are truly the sons and daughters of God. We pray they will know the truth of the Father's deep love for each of them, enabling them to grow in their relationship with Christ. We believe that a strong relationship with Christ will give them the strength to take their place in the Church and in society and make a positive contribution to our world, able to withstand its pressures, difficulties and challenges.

"Dear young people, you too are called to be 'fishers of men'. Do not hesitate to spend your life with joy to witness to the Gospel; your contribution is vital to the mission of the Church, which is to spread God's Word: the young are the apostles of youth! Tell everyone with your life, with your joy, that Jesus and His message is always current. And this is why you have the courage to go against the tide, do not be driven by the currents, set sail with Jesus to bring His message to the world".

Pope Francis - message to young people, September 2023

Facilities in the RE department

All RE lessons are taught in six of the purpose-built classrooms in Littlemore House. Each room is well furnished with digital projector and whiteboard. Each room has pin boards which are used to display and celebrate pupil work.



Key Stage 3

At Cardinal Newman, students have five one-hour lessons of RE every two weeks. In keeping with the Bishops' Curriculum Directory, approved by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, we use the RED curriculum which continues the faith journey pupils started in our feeder primary schools. Each year we focus on Christian beliefs and practice according to the Roman Catholic Tradition.

Key Stage 4

Students have five one-hour lessons of RE every two weeks. We follow the WJEC Eduqas GCSE courses in Religious Studies. We teach these courses because we believe they offer an exciting and relevant opportunity for students to explore their faith and consider religious and other responses to important moral and social issues. Students will also get the opportunity to study other faiths including Judaism.

Key Stage 5

All students are given the opportunity to develop their faith in the Sixth Form through retreats, RE lessons and conferences. A healthy number of students take up the OCR Philosophy and Ethics A-level course. This year, we proudly achieved Alps 4 and 50% B+

What are the lesson activities?

During lesson time pupils will be involved in a range of activities including discussion, pair work, group work, role play and research from books and the internet.

Independent Study

Independent Study is set regularly each half term and can be accessed on the school's Virtual Learning Environment on the school website and on class charts. This involves a range of activities including reading, research, and project work and preparing presentations.

Assessment

Pupils' Independent Study and class work are assessed continually during the term. There are two formal assessments in RE during the year.

Celebrating our success!

We are very proud of our exceptional GCSE results. We are consistently achieving above the national average in the exams. This year, 76% of our GCSE students achieved grades 9-4.

Prayer and Reflection in RE

We begin each lesson with a prayer and as far as possible we follow the liturgical calendar, drawing the students' attention to the seasons of the Church's year and Feasts and incorporating this into our prayer.

We believe that faith is 'caught' not 'taught' and so we strive, as best we can, in our words and above all in our actions to reflect the Gospel message to our students:

"You must live your whole life according to the Christ you have received – Jesus the Lord; you must be rooted in him and built on him and held firm by the faith you have been taught and full of thanksgiving."(Colossians 2:6-7)

The RE Team!

Miss. Alice Clothier - Curriculum Lead for RE

Miss Claire Daly - Deputy Headteacher

Mrs. Lidia Kidman

Dr. Patrick Businge

Mr. Karsten Wille

Mr. Marc Forni

Miss Karishga Kandeepan

Mrs. Tricell Manning-Smith

Mrs. Aimee Barbu

Miss. Erica Lymer

Mr. Alister King

