

Exmouth Community College



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Policy Details	Date
Policy Written	Lisa Lowe
Policy ratified by	Curriculum Committee
Policy agreed by governors	03.07.18 (FGB)
Review Cycle	2 years
Policy Review date	Summer 1 2020

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Exmouth Community College is regarded as an integral part of the school curriculum, essential to any child's complete and thorough education.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics may be seen as a particular and distinctive way of interpreting experience and mode of understanding and to study Religion, Philosophy and Ethics is the entitlement of each child.

Aims

Religious Education at Exmouth Community College seeks to implement the aims and objectives of the Education Reform Act 1988 and follow the main elements of the Devon Agreed Syllabus for Religion.

Therefore within Exmouth Community College the Religion, Philosophy and Ethics department aims to:

- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and mental development of students.
- offer explicit opportunities for students to consider the response of religion to fundamental questions about the purpose of being, morality and ethical standards and develop their own response to such matters.
- ensure students gain both a thorough knowledge of Christianity reflecting the Christian heritage of this country and knowledge of other principal religions represented in Great Britain.
- help to promote among students a clear set of personal values and beliefs.
- promote respect for, and understanding of, those with different beliefs and religious practices from their own, based on rigorous study of different faiths.
- explore difficult issues within a supportive framework.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Exmouth Community College seeks to achieve these aims by assisting students to:

- reflect on those aspects of human experience which give rise to fundamental questions about life.
- develop a sensitivity to spiritual/religious interpretations of human experience.
- study Christianity and the principal religions represented in Britain.
- reflect on a wide range of concepts, skills, attitudes and emotions.
- encourage the individual to gain self-understanding, to explore relationships with others and to consider the place of the individual within the local community and the wider world.

The College acknowledges the legal provisions:

- that parents have the right to withdraw their children from the subject and provide their own religious education lessons/materials.
- that Religious Education should be non-denominational.

PROVISION SEPTEMBER 2018

As of September 2018, the Religion, Philosophy and Ethics department will be delivering a full GCSE to all students, starting in Year 9. There is, therefore a period of transition while this change takes full effect.

Students in Year 7 have 1 period per week
Students in Year 8 have 1 period per week
Students in Year 9 have 2 periods per week
Students in Year 10 and 11 have 1 period per week

2018's Year 10 and Year 11 follow the old model, with all students having one hour per week towards a short course AQA GCSE, examined at the end of Year 11. Those who opted for the subject have more lessons and take a full GCSE qualification (twilight – 2 hours a week; main timetable option – 3 hours a week).

KEY STAGE 5

Religious Studies is available at 'A' Level (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics).

For those not involved in public exams, it is aimed to make a provision through the use of specific Post-16 activities e.g. assemblies, where possible.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Equality Policy. No one will unlawfully be disadvantaged on the grounds of age, race or ethnicity, disability, gender and marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or belief under the operation of this policy.

This policy is also compliant with General Data Protection Regulation.