

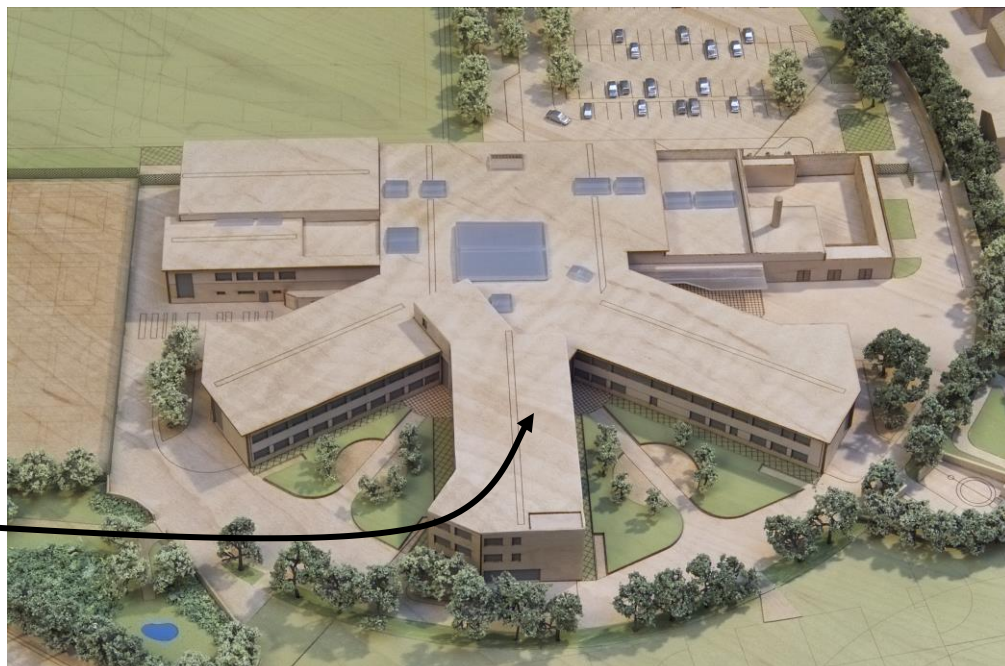


St Mary's Catholic School

Religious Education Department

The department occupies a suite of 5 classrooms with the majority of teachers having their own classroom. Each classroom is equipped with state of the art Smartboards linked to desktop computers linked to a classroom speaker system. There is also a standard whiteboard in each room. The department has a set of portable netbooks available to staff on a booking basis.

There are currently 6 members of the RE Department and all are full time. There is a Head and Second in Department and 1 member of staff is also the school's SENCO.



RE
Department

In Year 7 students are not set but are taught in mixed ability tutor groups. In Years 8 and 9 students are grouped by ability. For the GCSE programmes in Key Stage 4, the students are also grouped by ability. Sets are reviewed every term and updated using students' assessment performance. Class size in KS3 is typically 30 pupils in sets 1 and 2, 25 in sets 3 and 4 and 15 in set 5. GCSE classes follow the same pattern. We currently have one AS level group with a total of 26 students and one A2 group of 15 students.

KS3

Key Stage 3 provision is currently 4 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle. There are comprehensive schemes of work and resources for all topics covered. Each SOW provides for structured learning and regular assessment. Students are encouraged to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of RE using varied approaches to learning.

In Year 7 students study 6 units all based around particular themes, namely, The Church, Storytelling, Belief, What it means to be human, Forgiveness and Prayer. In Year 8 students study 6 topics all based around particular themes, namely, The History of the Church, Who is Jesus?, Justice, Is death the end?, Why do people suffer and Why should we care? In Year 9 students study 6 units all based around particular themes, namely, Prayer and Pilgrimage, Religion and Science, Love, War and Peace, Community Cohesion and Who is Jesus?

Throughout the year students complete assessed pieces of work which take place both in class and at home. Students are given a level for this piece of work and set targets accordingly. Three times a year there is a formal assessment level marked with levels reported home.

KS4

Key Stage 4 provision for Year 10 and 11 is currently 5 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle. We follow the Edexcel board syllabus. In Year 10 students study Unit 8 Religion and Life Society based on Christianity and Islam and in Year 11 students study Unit 3, Religion and life based on Catholic Christianity. The units studied in Unit 8 are Rights and Responsibilities, Environmental and Medical Issues, Peace and Conflict and Crime and Punishment. The units studied in Unit 3 are Believing in God, Matters of Life and death, Marriage and Family Life and Religion and Community Cohesion. . Students sit 2 exams: Unit 8 is a 1 hour 30 minute written paper worth 50%. Unit 3 is also 1 hour 30 minutes worth 50%. There is no controlled assessment in this subject. Assessment is on-going with students sitting a mock exam in Y10 and 11 with grades reported home.

KS5

Key Stage 5 provision is currently 10 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle per subject. The department offers both AS and A2 level Philosophy and Ethics. We follow the OCR syllabus covering G571, G572 in Year 12 and G581 and G582 in Year 13. Students sit 2 exams both are 1 hour 30 minutes. Assessment is on-going with students sitting a mock exam in Y12 and 13 with grades reported home.