

RELIGION, SELF AND SOCIETY

Key stage 4

In years 10 and 11 all students will complete the core Religion Self and Society course. This is a one-hour lesson per fortnight which students compliments and consolidates the spiritual, moral, social cultural, personal, health, careers and citizenship education that takes place throughout the key stage four curriculum in every subject area. In religion Self and Society lessons student have an opportunity to discuss and reflect on local, national and global issues from both religious and non-religious perspectives. This course also meets our schools' commitment and statutory requirement, to deliver high quality Relationships and Sex education and comprehensive careers education throughout Key Stage 4.

Students will also be given the option to study the Eduqas Religious Studies (Philosophy and applied Ethics) full GCSE course. This course looks at topics that we know will engage all including issues of life and death, equality, abortion, euthanasia, religion and science, wealth and poverty, relationships, crime and punishment, censorship, human rights as well as reflection on the question of the existence of God in light of human suffering. This full GCSE course encourages critical thought towards and is recognised by employers as a demonstration of analytical thinking, emotional intelligence, problem solving ability and social awareness. This is course is a must for anyone interested in pursuing a career in Law, the Media, Medicine, Politics, Social Work, the Emergency Services, the Armed Services or Education.

The Religion Self and Society department has also organised Soul Space in association with the Lighthouse, Yesu and St Peter's Church. This is where the drama studio is transformed into a space for prayer and reflection. Colourful fabric, lighting and cushions, fill the space with different interactive activities and zones available. Students are encouraged to use the space in a way that best suits their own needs— from being creative artistically to having a time of quiet and thoughtful reflection. Over the five days, the Soul Space offers all students the chance to access aspects of prayer in an experiential way that a classroom couldn't provide and encourages them to think and reflect on their own lives and wider world issues and take an active role in social responsibility and stewardship of the Earth. Every year our students have the opportunity to engage in active citizenship with the Soul Space petition. Last year our students fought for an environmental /social justice cause, challenging 'fast fashion' campaigning for better conditions for sweat shop labourers by sewing buttons onto a Sheringham High School polo shirt. This was then presented to parliament by our local MP Duncan Baker.

