Religious Education Curriculum Intent

The Religious Education curriculum at The Albion Academy enables learners to deepen their understanding of the world around them, enriched with religious context and history. At a time in the world where there is much confusion and conflict around religion, we at The Albion aim to reflect the reality, beliefs, and cultures of the world, whilst also encouraging students to explore their own beliefs and opinions.

We delve into the six major world beliefs, the problems, and challenges that a religious person may face living in Great Britain. We also explore the issues around many modern topics such as abortion, euthanasia, atheism, and extremism, as well as exploring the harrowing experiences of the Holocaust from a religious and human level. In order to serve the diverse religious and cultural communities within and around the school, we aim to cover a variety of religious and non-religious traditions, showing the connectivity and plurality within these. Students will be able to know about, and discuss, religions that are represented locally to them through people, communities, and religious places.

The Religious Education Curriculum at Albion Academy is underpinned by the following curriculum principles.

Entitlement: All students will study a broad range of religious and non-religious beliefs and practices, both from a historical perspective and how they affect society today. This allows students to engage with knowledge about religious traditions and reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes.

Coherence: The RE curriculum is sequenced so that knowledge, themes, and skills build term by term and year by year. For example, the curriculum has been carefully considered to ensure students study the three Abrahamic Faiths in chronological order beginning with Judaism and Christianity in Year 7 followed by Islam in Year 8. This also serves to highlight the connectivity between three of the largest religious communities in the local Salford area.

Mastery: We ensure that foundational knowledge, skills and, concepts are secure before moving on. Students revisit prior learning to consolidate knowledge and apply their understanding in new contexts. In Years 8 and 9, students will move towards themes surrounding religion such as the nature of God, inequality in religion and morality with a focus on interpretation a key skill; to do this, they will rely upon the knowledge of religions gained in the previous years as a foundation of religious belief.

Adaptability: All students will study the same topics with key knowledge and concepts identified. These will, however, be adapted by the teacher to suit the students and the school community. For instance, when studying Judaism, we embed discussion around the local Jewish community in Salford, which is above the national average in the United Kingdom, highlighting the diversity we have in the local area.

Representation: The aim of the RE curriculum is to be reflective of the diverse religious community within the school community, local area, and nationally. It allows students to see themselves within this, whilst also engaging with a variety of beliefs and practices different to theirs, allowing them to expand their perspectives.

Education with Character: Through the curriculum, pupils are given opportunities to debate, share, and reflect on a range of religious topics such as gender inequality, LGBTQ+ rights, and moral issues such as euthanasia and abortion. In addition, within the broader school experience, students will engage with religious festivals and British Values, particularly those centred around tolerance and liberty.