

Philosophy, Religion & Ethics (PRE)

Vision & Core Values

Welcome to the PRE department~ Our department welcomes students from all faiths as well as those with none and encourages students to engage with philosophical, religious and ethical issues that are found in our community as well as the wider world. We believe it is vital that all pupils, irrespective of their personal beliefs, need a safe, respectful and positive forum in which they are able to learn about as well as ask questions on ways of living, spiritual and religious beliefs and difficult existential questions. This contributes towards their growth as independent individuals who can participate in society by reflecting upon and responding with well-reasoned viewpoints to the various social and global issues of the modern world.

Curriculum Key Stage 3

All students on the school roll receive and participate in religious education. During Key Stage 3 this is delivered via a formal programme of study that incorporates an introduction to the study of philosophy and ethics. Students also study the ways of living in many of the 6 major world religions whilst simultaneously exploring the ethical dimensions of living these lifestyles in a multicultural society.

Throughout key stage 3 students are encouraged to build upon and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of religions. They are also taught how to apply their knowledge through extended writing tasks. Students are assessed each term on their knowledge and their skill of application.

Curriculum Key Stage 4

Students at CBSC have the opportunity to study the GCSE in PRE and we currently follow the OCR specification. This course covers two religions in detail, this deepens and extends the knowledge acquired in key stage 3. Additionally the GCSE extends and develops students' skill of application by exploring a variety of contentious ethical issues in society including but not limited to issues surrounding sexual relationships and marriage, medical ethics, peace and conflict and how multi-cultural and multi-faith society can coexist Peacefully.

Students who do not choose to study the GCSE programme are expected to participate in conference days organised by the department. In previous years the school has held very successful conference days on the issue of human trafficking. During these conferences students spend the day interacting with various external speakers and complete a variety of workshop activities.

Curriculum Post 16

The department offers an Ethics programme to our 61h formers where they are given the opportunity to study animal welfare and animal rights in depth.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The department's flagship residential trip is our bi-annual trip to Rome where students are offered the opportunity to spend the final week of the summer term visiting various sites in Rome. This includes but is not limited to a visit to Vatican City as well as lots of opportunities to buy souvenirs!

In previous years there has also been an opportunity for Year 8 pupils to visit the National Gallery to explore religious art followed by a tour of St Paul's Cathedral which includes a visit to the top of the dome!

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