



# Welcome to Religious Studies!

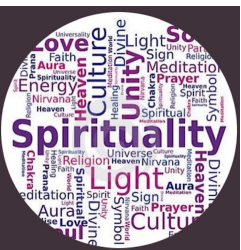
## We can't wait to meet you!

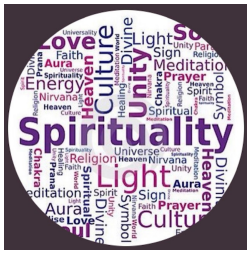


You may have called it RE (Religious Education) but here at Hall Mead, and because we are a secondary school, we call it Religious Studies. RS will be very different to the RE you have done at primary school as we get you exploring a whole range of beliefs (religious and non-religious), how beliefs influence behaviour, some philosophy (thinking about the big questions in life) and some world faiths.

We see that as being all the things we need and want to teach you that will help you grow into a responsible, tolerant and respectful citizen of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century!

We hope that means you will have some understanding of the different faiths, cultures, beliefs and values of the people you will meet and work with later in life. We also want you to know how make your own decisions, be able to explain them reasonably and – importantly – accept that others may have different views.





# Staff and topics



**Religious Studies is a popular subject across all the year groups, with many students choosing to study it for GCSE. You will be taught once-a-week by Mr Cashman or Mr Newall – RS specialists who love our subject and enjoy teaching and getting to know the new Year 7! Mr Cashman also runs a film club at certain times showing a range of thought-provoking films and TV shows that link to our topics or values**

## *Year 7 units:*

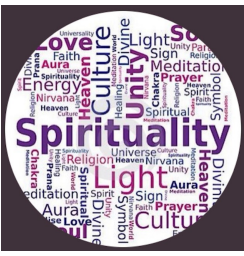
*An introduction to RS, where you will study some philosophy, do some debating and learn about the six major world religions*

*Christianity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, where you will learn about the origins of Christianity, what's in a church, what Christians do in and out of church to serve God*

*Buddhism, where you will consider a religion without a god and what they believe about life, the afterlife, suffering and how to avoid it*

We have two lovely RS rooms over in the Alan Wunderly Centre building which have great displays, lots of artefacts to look at and pupil work to be inspired by





# What we want from YOU!



- ✓ **Joining in verbally is really important in our subject and you will have the chance to contribute to class discussion, ask questions, give your own opinions and perspectives and expand your vocabulary**
- ✓ **If speaking is really important in RS, so too is listening! You will learn the most when you are prepared to listen to our explanations AND the questions and answers of your classmates**
- ✓ **Make ALL work your best effort, whether this is writing, speaking, note-taking or drawing!**
- ✓ **Not to worry about not understanding or ‘getting something wrong’! We want you to ask questions or for help if you are stuck. RS offers a fantastic opportunity and safe space to discuss things where there isn’t always one answer or a right answer**
- ✓ **Show respect for views, beliefs and ideas that are different from your own – you don’t have to agree to learn from someone or something!**
- ✓ **Handle any religious artefacts (objects) with care and respect**
- ✓ **Learn the spelling and definition of a small set of keywords we give you each week (usually 3-4 important new words)**