



**CHESTERTON  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Chesterton Community College  
RE and Collective Worship Policy  
November 2016**

## Religious Education (RE)

The Academy is required to provide Religious Education as part of the Secondary Curriculum, as detailed in the funding agreement with the Department for Education. We provide separate Religious Education lessons to all students in Year 7, 8 and 9, in line with the Cambridgeshire Local Agreed Syllabus 2013. All students follow a GCSE Religious Studies course (Ethics) in Year 10 and 11.

The Local Agreed Syllabus sets out a balanced approach to RE, allowing students the opportunity to explore their own beliefs, values and traditions and to develop a knowledge and understanding of a range of religious and non-religious world-views.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education lessons provided by the school; however, we would strongly encourage all parents not to do so because we feel that these lessons are a valuable part of students' overall education and enhance their spiritual, moral, cultural and social development. Further information about this is included in the Appendix.

In the event of parents withdrawing their child from Religious Education lessons as provided by Chesterton, alternative provision will be negotiated.

The following points should be noted:

- The school has a duty to supervise the pupil, if required, during the curriculum time.
- Parents are required to provide alternative Religious Education.
- Students are not to miss other curriculum areas to study an alternative RE programme.
- RE is part of the basic curriculum therefore students are not permitted to undertake other academic subjects in this time.

Please contact the Head of Religious Education, Miss Palmer, if you have any queries about RE lessons.

## Collective Worship

The Academy provides all students with the opportunity to engage in collective reflection and discussion about issues of a religious and spiritual nature. These opportunities are provided through Religious Education lessons, tutorial sessions and through assemblies. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of collective worship.

However, as Chesterton Community College does not require or ask students to engage in prayer, or to follow a programme of assemblies and tutorials based on religious practice, parents are unlikely to wish to withdraw their children.

Parents with general queries about collective worship should contact the Headteacher, Mrs Scott.

**Commented [KH1]:** Name added for consistency with layout of previous section.