



The Religious Education Department

The RE Department at St. Michael's is a very successful department and, at present, consists of 5 full-time members of staff. Members of the Leadership Team also teach Core RE at Sixth Form level. The department also benefits from a part-time Chaplain.

In the Diocesan Inspection (October 2024) the School was judged as Outstanding overall and for Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship.

The Syllabus for KS3 is in accordance with the Catholic Directory for Religious Education, following Schemes of Work produced by the RE department which are appropriate for our students as they provide the right level of challenge and reflection. In KS3 we also study modules on Hinduism (Year 7) Islam (Year 8) and Judaism (Year 9).

At the end of KS4 all pupils take GCSE Religious Studies:

Exam Board: AQA Religious Studies B:

Catholic Christianity (50%)

St Mark's Gospel (25%)

Judaism (25%)

At KS5 all students follow one Core RE lesson each week (on a carousel process offered by seven members of staff in each of Years 12 and 13). Religious Studies, OCR Board, is offered at A Level with papers taken in Philosophy, Ethics and Development of Christian Thought. The uptake is good and the results excellent.

All members of the RE department share in the running of the liturgical life of the school, including preparing classes to lead Friday Mass in the Chapel, assisting the Head of RE and Chaplain with whole school liturgies and Masses, upholding the Catholic life and ethos of the school.

The full and part-time teachers of RE have a key role within the Department contributing to all aspects of this central department which, to be successful, depends on good teamwork. They have a particular responsibility for the development of RE in KS3, and work with the Chaplain in promoting charity events and planning for trips such as the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes and charity work in Luanda, Kenya.

The Chaplain is responsible for co-ordinating and facilitating the liturgical life of the School, together with the Head of RE. The Music, Drama and Dance departments contribute through the Liturgy Committee and pupils from all years are fully involved in meaningful and lively liturgies for the whole School at the end of each term, for the feast of St. Michael and Holy Days of Obligation. There is a voluntary Mass each Friday in the school chapel prepared by each form in the School (KS3/KS4). Staff and Sixth Form students are Eucharistic Ministers.

A varied programme of Retreats is prepared for every year group.

The Department has two fully equipped specialist teaching rooms and there is a Chapel with a small Oratory.

The RE Department's role is a vital one in a Catholic School. The person appointed will bring her/his own particular talents and interests but the successful candidate will be an excellent teacher who has a positive attitude to life and to the school's ethos as well as a lively sense of humour.

October 2026