

# Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

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Religious Education is part of the basic curriculum alongside the National Curriculum. Religious education has equal standing in relation to the core and foundation subjects within the school.

### The Purpose of Religious Education

‘The purpose of religious education (RE) is to support students in developing their own coherent patterns of values and principles, and to support their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.’

*Living Difference - The Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton*

This entails encouragement of each student to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religions and to their own and others’ cultural and life experiences. It is important that students progressively develop the capacities to interpret, evaluate and respond to differing values and beliefs. This can be achieved through extending their thinking and analytical skills and their creative, imaginative and emotional development.

A further purpose for RE is to foster mutual understanding between students of differing religious and cultural backgrounds. It reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teachings and practices of the other principal religions in Great Britain

As the law states, our agreed syllabus is non-denominational. Accordingly we do not teach any catechism or formulary which is distinctive of any religious denomination. Our syllabus is not designed to convert pupils, or to urge a particular religion or religious belief on pupils.

Religious education will be taught to all pupils except for those withdrawn at the wish of their parents/carers. If parents/carers wish their child to withdraw from RE lessons they should apply to the head teacher.