



The Priory School  
Headteacher: A Pope BA (Hons) PGCE MSC, NPQH  
Longden Road, Shrewsbury,  
Shropshire, SY3 9EE

01743 284000  
pri-info@pri.318education.co.uk  
www.tpstrust.co.uk

**24<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

**RE: KS3 Core Religious Education**

There is a statutory requirement for schools, including Academies, to deliver Religious Education to all students in all year groups. You will be aware that we deliver a full hour of Religious Philosophy (RP) at KS3 and that we offer a full GCSE in Religious Studies, which is a very popular course.

In 2019 Shropshire Council convened a group called SACRE to devise a syllabus for the delivery of Religious Education in Schools and we have put provision in place in accordance with this guidance.

In September, all students in Year 10 who have **not** opted to take the full Religious Studies GCSE will follow a version of the short course GCSE devised by Mrs Hancox, Head of RP. Students will come out of one core PE lesson each week in **either** the Autumn or Spring term and attend an RP lesson with Mrs Hancox. This will mean that they will miss one PE lesson per week for one term, which will equate to approximately 13 lessons.

The content of the course will follow the statutory requirement to study two religions, Christianity and Islam. It will also include topics such as prejudice, discrimination, human rights and crime. This will not result in a qualification but will be an important addition to students' wider education and something they can refer to in their personal statements and future job applications. The lessons will be very discussion based and there will be no homework or additional study set.

We will be addressing students to explain this in the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> July. As with KS3 and according to the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus, parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education. We anticipate that those who are taking PE GCSE or Cambridge National will choose to opt out in order to attend all PE lessons.

Once we have addressed students in the assembly, we will send out a link to a MS form for you to complete by **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July** should you wish to withdraw your child from the RP core lessons. **Please note that, if not completed by this deadline, all students who are not already taking RP at GCSE will be expected to attend the core RP lessons in the Autumn or Spring term.**

Yours Sincerely,

**Mrs C Knight**

**Deputy Headteacher**