



*Tomlinscote School  
&  
Sixth Form College*

# Governors' Policy Statement on Religious Education

<b>Policy Type:</b>	Mandatory
<b>Approved By:</b>	Teaching & Learning Committee
<b>Effective From:</b>	January 2018
<b>Revision Date:</b>	January 2021

# Tomlinscote School & Sixth Form College

## Governors' Policy Statement on Religious Education

### **Why do we study about religions?**

We have a legal obligation to provide religious education for students. The Education Act of 1996 states that “schools must provide religious education (RE) for all registered students. Parents have the right to withdraw their children. The school must teach religious education according to the locally agreed syllabus which should reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain”.

At Tomlinscote the distinctive contribution that RE makes to the school curriculum is recognised through the following aims:

### **Aims for Religious Education are:**

To enable students to:

- Demonstrate an appreciation of the nature of religion and the important contribution of religious and spiritual insights and values to the individual's search for meaning in life.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity, and of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain, both through their history and their contemporary diverse expressions.
- Develop interest in and enthusiasm for the study of religion and enhance their own spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.
- Develop the ability to make reasoned, informed and creative responses to religious and moral issues.
- Recognise the influence of beliefs, values and traditions on the individual, on culture and on communities throughout the world.

These aims are implemented at Tomlinscote through the 2012 – 2017 Surrey Locally Agreed Syllabus. It is reviewed and updated every 5 years by County Consultants. The Surrey Agreed Syllabus can be accessed through the following website link - [file:///H:/Downloads/c\\_apps\\_as5-babcock cms Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools 2017-2022 mj 5-6-2017-11732%20\(5\).pdf](file:///H:/Downloads/c_apps_as5-babcock cms Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Surrey Schools 2017-2022 mj 5-6-2017-11732%20(5).pdf)

### **How is RE taught at Tomlinscote?**

RE is taught one period a week in Years 7-11. In Years 9, 10 and 11, students study Religious Studies as a GCSE for one period a week. Students will be expected to sit the AQA religious studies GCSE exams in the summer of Year 11.

Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development will occur throughout the whole curriculum at Tomlinscote.

### **How is RE Monitored at Tomlinscote:**

1. Syllabus and Schemes of Work developed in line with the Surrey Agreed Syllabus and examination specifications by the Head of RE.
2. Student progress is monitored at KS3, GCSE and A level by the Head of RE, Head of Humanities and the line manager in the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).
3. School Development Plan targets –by the Head of RE, Head of Humanities, SLT Line Manager

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education under 9(3) of the Education Reform Act, 1988 and the Education Act 1996. They must write to the Head of School stating their wish to withdraw their child from RE and outline the reasons.

Policy reviewed:

Signature

Chair: Teaching & Learning Committee

Date: January 2018

Next review date: January 2022