

Ethics Philosophy & Religion and PSHE Department Information

Ethics Philosophy and Religion at The Hollins is delivered by three specialist teachers with pupils receiving at least one hour per week of the subject a week at Key stage 3, and 5 lessons per fortnight at GCSE where all students are entered for the Religious Studies qualification. At Key Stage 3 pupils will study topics such as conflict, animal rights, afterlife, discrimination, moral ethics and philosophy in addition to exploring the main 6 religious beliefs. The GCSE in Religious Studies is a two-year course starting in year 10. This is the AQA Specification A qualification focusing on Islam and Christianity for paper one and a variety of beliefs for the thematic paper.

Ethics Philosophy and Religion plays a central role in the curriculum at The Hollins as not only does the department have a tradition of successful GCSE results with the Religious Studies exam, which make a positive contribution to the whole school, but it also contributes to the pastoral excellence of The Hollins, the delivery of SMSC and British Values aspects of the curriculum. Through this work we have earned countywide, national and international recognition.

PSHE is delivered one lesson a week at Key Stage 3 and one per fortnight at Key Stage 4. As part of our responsibility to deliver the PSHE curriculum we participate in a number of cross-curricular ventures, such as Ethical Enterprise, Amnesty Youth group, Fair Trade school and Eco/Sustainable Schools. In addition to this we have guest speakers that come into the school such as Solutions Not Sides who spend a day educating students on the Palestine Israel conflict. As part of our aim to increase cultural capital for all pupils in Key Stage 3 all students attend a multi faith trip where they visit different places of worship. The school has been awarded the RE Quality Mark Gold Standard for its provision.

Off timetable days for the study of PSHE and citizenship themes are held for Key Stage 4 pupils at various times in years 10 and 11.