

Vandyke Upper School
Leighton Buzzard
LU7 3DY

September 2022

Religious Education

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As a part of your child's education at Vandyke we teach Religious Education to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum. The aim of RE is to provoke challenging conversations about the purpose to life and belief systems; understand the local, national and global context of religion & belief systems and explore further wisdom & spirituality to be able to agree or disagree respectfully. This is delivered through the Life Skills programme in years 9 – 11 and meets the Government statutory requirement of:

- Providing RE for all students
- RE is multi-faith
- Locally determined

The agreed upon programme and aims are created in line with the SACRE report for Central Bedfordshire, which goes into great detail about what has been agreed to be taught in our part of the County. The overarching aims of the SACRE report highlight 3 main objectives of RE in Central Bedfordshire:

- Make sense of a range of religious and non-religious beliefs
- Understand the impact and significance of religious and non-religious beliefs
- Make connections between religious and non-religious concepts

Parents Right to Withdraw from RE

Religious Education at Vandyke is inclusive, broad and balanced exploring a range of religious and non-religious points of view. However, parents still have the right to withdraw their child from all or part RE on the grounds that they wish to provide their own RE (School Standards & Framework Act 1998 S71(3)). The RE provision will then be the parents sole responsibility. If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, we would urge you to firstly, visit our website where you can find a copy of the RE policy. Secondly, please contact your child's year team or myself to discuss this further.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Pearson
Team Leader of Life Skills