



## The Religious Education Curriculum

As a Hampshire school, The Clere School follows the Hampshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, Living Difference IV, which is informed by current education research, as well as research into religion and worldviews. See: [Living Difference IV - The Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, November 2021](#)

## Withdrawal from Religious Education

The procedure for withdrawal from Religious Education is as follows:

Parent / carer submits a request to withdraw child from Religious Education in writing to the Headteacher. Parents are not obliged to state their reasons for seeking withdrawal.

The Head of Humanities talks to the student to establish the nature of the concern.

The parent / carer is invited to the school to meet with the Head of Humanities.

The Hampshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and Schemes of Work are available for the parent / carer to read.

The parent / carer is invited to meet with the Headteacher. In the meeting with the parent / carer, to avoid misunderstanding, the Headteacher will seek to establish with any parent wanting to exercise their right to withdrawal:

- The religious issues about which the parent / carer would object to his or her child being taught
- The practical implications of the withdrawal
- The circumstances in which the school can reasonably be expected to accommodate parental wishes
- Whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such Religious Education, and if so, how much

The Headteacher makes the decision about whether total withdrawal or partial permission will be put in place to meet the request of the parent / carer. The agreement will be communicated in writing by the Headteacher to the parent / carer within 5 school days of the parent / carer meeting with the Headteacher.



## **Accommodating a student who has been withdrawn from Religious Education**

Unless the child is being provided with a religious education away from school premises the school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn by its parent from RE:

- This may mean that the child takes work to another class, or joins a parallel class who is working on a different area of the curriculum.
- A student may sit in an area away from the classroom where another adult is supervising other students.
- A teacher may withdraw the student within the classroom where the RE is taking place.
- Where possible, alternative curriculum planning for one student should be avoided, class teachers may draw upon libraries, topic books, computers and extension or support activities to provide natural alternatives to the RE.
- It may be possible for the parent to send their child some alternative work/reading if the school agrees it is suitable content.
- Withdrawal should not be seen as a chance for students to 'catch up' with homework or do additional work on other subjects.