

## ***Religious Studies Curriculum Intent Statement***

At The Link Academy, our Religious Studies curriculum inspires students to explore the diversity of religions and worldviews that shape human experience, ethics and culture. We encourage critical examination of key questions around faith, morality and human existence, fostering respect, open mindedness and social responsibility. By engaging with a range of religious and some non-religious perspectives, as well as focusing on the personal worldview of our learners, we promote empathy, tolerance and respect.

Our curriculum provides opportunities for students to reflect on their own worldview and their beliefs and values, helping them become thoughtful individuals. By engaging with a range of perspectives and considering how the world is viewed through different lenses, students deepen their understanding, justify their views and confidently articulate their reasoning.

We equip students with critical thinking, ethical reasoning, empathy and religious literacy. These skills are vital for personal development and for contributing positively to a diverse society. By the end of their studies, our aim is to prepare students to become responsible, compassionate citizens, able to engage thoughtfully with moral and social issues, applying different lenses, while respecting each other and our world.

### **How will this be achieved in our curriculum?**

We believe that studying religions and worldviews helps students navigate and make sense of the world around them. Our curriculum draws on theological, philosophical and sociological lenses to explore beliefs, practices and ethical teachings. Learners reflect on the significance of these worldviews and their impact on individuals, societies and global issues, encouraging deeper reflection on how belief systems shape thought, behaviour and ethics.

### **How does assessment fit in?**

Assessment in Religious Studies evaluates students' understanding of key concepts, their ability to analyse ethical issues and their skill in expressing well supported perspectives. Assessments encourage students to apply critical thinking as they engage with complex questions and diverse worldviews.

### **How does extra-curricular in RS benefit our learners?**

The RS Team has an established, Express YouRself club which has been running for multiple years. Through this, learners participate in debates, the NATRE Spirited Arts competition and have supported in the running of our school's Culture Day. Pupils from across all years can work collaboratively, developing various skills including oracy and how to discuss sensitive issues with respect. Most importantly the club supports in preparing them to continue on their journey into multicultural society, with a greater understanding of how to express their own worldview, as well as the worldviews of others.