



Religious Education is the 'core of the core curriculum' (Pope St. John Paul II) because 'At the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person. This vision is expressed and explored in religious education. Therefore, religious education is never simply one subject among many, but the foundation of the entire educational process.' Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 2000

## What is the purpose of Newman College RE (CORE)?

1. To give students an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith and consider ways they can respond to it personally (**Theology**)
2. To help students develop their critical thinking and communication skills as they look at a range of 'ultimate' questions and pursue truth and wisdom (**Philosophy**)
3. To raise awareness and understanding of a number ethical issues that people face in the world and different ways of approaching these (**Ethics**)
4. To help students continue to learn about issues with real-life relevance to them, at a crucial transition point in their lives (**Wellbeing**).

## Delivery:

- **Lessons:** To meet the statutory 5% curriculum time set aside for RE at KS5 CORE is made up of fortnightly discussion-based lessons for all Y12 students in small class sizes. It will finish just before Easter term to allow students to focus on exams but this year the students will continue the course on into Y13 (September 2024 start). In the case of unavoidable staff absences teachers should check if anyone in the department can cover their session before cancelling a lesson.
- **Volunteering:** Students will also be expected to undertake 15 hours of volunteering across each year with a focus on work that supports the faith and community life of the school. This will be fully rolled out after the October half-term, using GC/SIMS for students/teachers to log volunteering hours (**tbc**).
- **Resources:** PowerPoints for each lesson can be found in the RE Shared Folder on Google Drive. Teachers are encouraged to be flexible in its delivery as classes can really vary in their engagement. As long as the key themes are covered feel free to adopt an approach that will most benefit your group.
- **Students:** There will be a diverse range of students in every group in terms of ability, faith background and disposition towards RE. You will likely have a mix of internal and external students. Much of the course will be explicitly Catholic in line with the ethos of the School and College but this will need to sensitively delivered in a way that all students can access. Developing good relationships with your classes is key –use this as an opportunity to help them with their studies and future life decisions.

The **2022 Religious Education Curriculum Directory** includes 5 branches that link in with the liturgical calendar and study in KS3-4. These include:

Branch	Core questions and debates:
<b>1. Creation and Covenant</b>	What is the meaning of life? What is true happiness? What does stewardship mean? Science vs Religion
<b>2. Prophecy and Promise</b>	What is truth? How does God speak to people? Can we have certain knowledge? Why do we believe what we believe?
<b>3. Galilee to Jerusalem</b>	Who is Jesus? How does Jesus change the lives of people today? What did Jesus come to do?
<b>4. Desert to Garden</b>	Why is there suffering in the world? What are different religious responses to the Problem of Evil? Forgiveness?
<b>5. To the Ends of the Earth</b>	What is the Church? What is the point of the Catholic Church in the modern world? Does religion really matter?

Every lesson in the course will link to these 5 branches as well as the 4 key aims of the course. Whilst there is clear overlap between them the key focus theme (**Philosophy/Ethics/Theology/Wellbeing**) has been highlighted in the lesson order on the other side of this sheet.



Lessons will begin from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September P1:

	Lesson Title	Learning Outcomes	RECD Themes link
1	<b>Introduction + BIG Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know what makes a question <i>philosophical</i></li> <li>To come up with <i>philosophical</i> questions</li> </ol>	<b>Prophecy and Promise</b>
2	<b>Critical thinking</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know some different types of logical <i>flaws</i> in arguments</li> <li>To look at the characteristics of good thinking</li> </ol>	<b>Prophecy and Promise</b>
3	<b>Ethics</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand the difference between ethical absolutism and relativism</li> <li>To consider different approaches to moral dilemmas</li> </ol>	<b>Desert to Garden</b>
4	<b>Animal Rights</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand different approaches to animal rights</li> <li>To consider your own response to these issues</li> </ol>	<b>Desert to Garden</b> <i>Explain Volunteering Scheme</i>
5	<b>Mental Health</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand various factors that impact mental health for young people today</li> <li>To consider strategies to respond to difficulties improve wellbeing</li> </ol>	<b>Creation and Covenant</b>
6	<b>Politics</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand how politics works in the UK</li> <li>To consider how to be personally politically engaged</li> </ol>	<b>Desert to Galilee</b>
7	<b>Christmas</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider a number of ethical and philosophical questions related to Christmas</li> <li>To look into work of charities connected at the school and to reflect on volunteering</li> </ol>	<b>Galilee to Jerusalem</b>
8	<b>What do I believe?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand different approaches to religious truth</li> <li>To consider your own response to these issues.</li> </ol>	<b>Prophecy and Promise</b>
9	<b>What is the meaning of life?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand different non-religious approaches to whether life has <i>meaning</i>.</li> <li>To consider your own response to these issues</li> </ol>	<b>Creation and Covenant</b> <i>Volunteering Check</i>
10	<b>Is there more to life than this?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand different reasons why people believe there is something more to life than what we just see.</li> <li>To consider your own response to these issues</li> </ol>	<b>Creation and Covenant</b>
11	<b>What is the point in Church?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider different understandings of what the purpose of Church is</li> <li>To consider your own response to the Church today</li> </ol>	<b>To the Ends of the Earth</b>
12	<b>Easter</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To know and understand different reasons why Christians have faith</li> <li>To consider your own response to these issues.</li> </ol>	<b>Galilee to Jerusalem</b>
13	<b>Final Review Lesson</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reflect on what you have learned from the course and volunteering this year.</li> <li>To consider ways to improve the course for future students</li> </ol>	<b>To the Ends of the Earth</b> <i>Volunteering Review</i>