

Religious Studies: Newark Academy

Welcome to RS at Newark Academy, I promise you RS with me will be unlike any RS lesson you've experienced before. I adore my subject as do a lot of our students and I can't wait to have you on team Daw!

What is RS?

Religious Studies is all about how we understand the world, who people are, what they believe and why. In RS we will focus on 3 different areas together;

1. Ethics – this is all about thinking if actions are right or wrong e.g. if it is wrong to tell a lie?
2. Philosophy – these are big questions about the world that no one knows the answers to e.g. Is God real?
3. Religion – we will learn about what people believe and what they do because of these beliefs

I can't wait for you to see the RS room, it's full of religious artefacts, colours and pictures from around the world. Its purpose is to get you thinking and hopefully inspire you to figure out what you believe and why. There are no silly questions in RS and no wrong answers, if you have an opinion then that's your opinion and we welcome it. I'm not teaching you to believe in God or not I'm teaching you about the world and helping you too figure out what you make of it!

Until we meet I would love you to do the following thinking to get your brains warmed up for RS...

1. Get comfy and sit down with the people you live with. You are going to ask them the following questions and let them answer, you should have a go to.
2. Every time someone gives their point I would like you to listen carefully, ask them why they believe that and then see if you can come up with a different opinion, one that goes against theirs. This might be tricky for some so you can ask for help.
3. Before we ask the questions we need to warm up our brains. Take it in turns to go through the alphabet and think of a name beginning with that letter for example Annie, Ben, Chris, Daniel. If you find that too easy go again with names of countries (None start with W or X)
4. When you are ready these are your questions – remember, to listen, ask them why and then argue against them
 - Aliens exist?
 - Heaven is real?
 - The world was created by chance (just happened randomly)?
 - What is happiness?
 - Will robots take over the world in the future?
 - What is the purpose of life?

Good luck, I look forward to discussing these types of questions with you when you start at Newark Academy.

Keep safe,

Ms Daw