

De Lisle College Curriculum

“Rooted and grounded in Love”.

Religious Studies



Intent – ‘Rooted and grounded in Love’

Intent – Rooted

To provide a faith filled and academically rigorous curriculum which will enable students to become religiously literate, spiritually engaged, philosophically articulate, ethically aware and socially responsible.

- Faith filled: to nurture the faith of all students, meeting them at their own point in their encounter with Jesus.
- Academically rigorous: to use the latest research in teaching and learning to enable students to achieve academic excellence.
- Religiously literate: to develop a deep knowledge of Roman Catholic Christianity; it's precepts; values; practices; history and role in the world through history and in the current day.
- Spiritually engaging through exploring our discipleship to support students in their search for truth and meaning in life.
- Philosophically articulate: to promote critical reasoning to facilitate the development of self-regulation in terms of students' beliefs and attitudes.
- Ethically aware: to consider different approaches to morality in order to inform their conscience to become a reliable and well-informed moral compass.
- Socially responsible: to understand the demands of Catholic Social Teaching as a missionary disciple in the 21st century. To understand the dignity and value of all human life.

Religious Education is a subject that finds at its heart the most difficult yet important questions of life. The ultimate purpose of Religious Education is to enable our young people to know how to find the responses to these questions, searching for these in the life and teaching of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of centuries of religious, ethical and philosophical thought.

At Key Stage Three (years 7-9), students follow the Religious Education Directory, from the Bishops of England and Wales.

At Key Stage Four (years 10-11), students follow the Eduqas Route B course - Catholic Christianity and Judaism.



Religious Studies

Year 7



De Lisle College
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Curriculum Outline

Link to Catholic Social Teaching:

In exploring the beauty of God's creation and the duty of humans to preserve this creation, students will consider the importance of stewardship and the impact of this duty both now and on future generations.

The dignity of all people is made clear through the study of Genesis 1 and 2, which teach that humans are made in God's image, to be in relationship with others.

In learning that the Holy Spirit invites all people to live in the life of the Church, and that the gentiles were welcomed into the early Church, students will be shown the value of participation – that it is God's will that people are included and valued.

Advent 1	Creation and Covenant		Prophecy and Promise
Description	God's revelation through the Bible, particularly about the creation of the world – referencing Genesis 1 and 2. Students will explore themes that emerge from this, including the relationship between scientific theories and faith; the value of human life and stewardship.	Description	The importance of Scripture, understanding the role of the Bible in the worship and life of Catholic Christians. Students will explore the meaning of biblical inspiration and the role of the Magisterium in guiding Catholic faith. Students will also explore sacred scripture in other faith traditions.
Lent 1	Galilee to Jerusalem	Lent 2	Desert to Garden
Description	The person of Jesus, both fully human and divine. Students will explore different titles of Jesus and their meaning, as well as explore the person of Jesus in the context of the Trinity as well as how the belief in Trinity is seen in Catholic worship. Students will also explore the nature of God in other religions.	Description	The Paschal mystery of the Church, making salvation possible for all people. Students will learn about the sacraments and the role they play in salvation – particularly the sacrament of the Eucharist. Students will consider the importance of the Mass and how this is lived in the day to day lives of Catholics.
Pentecost 1	To the Ends of the Earth	Pentecost 2	Dialogue and Encounter
Description	The importance of Pentecost in the history of the Church. Students will learn about the role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' own life, in the lives of his apostles and in the life of the Church. Close connection with the sacrament of confirmation shows the value of the Holy Spirit for Catholics today.	Description	Understanding the one Church seen in many denominations. Students will learn about how the Council of Jerusalem to understand how gentiles were welcomed to Christianity. Students will also explore different denominations and the role of ecumenism.

Religious Studies

Year 8



De Lisle College
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Curriculum Outline

Link to Catholic Social Teaching:

In exploring the messages from the prophets about the care for the poor, and also of Jesus' particular care for the poor, vulnerable and marginalised, students will come to understand the Catholic teaching about the option for the poor.

In considering the themes of service and justice both in Catholic Christianity and in other religions, students will be able to see the value of solidarity with those who suffer.

In learning about the importance of dialogue with those from other faith and no faith backgrounds, students will see that this is an expression of the dignity of all people.

Advent 1	Creation and Covenant	Advent 2	Prophecy and Promise
Description	The Fall of humanity and the invitation to salvation. Students will explore the meaning of the Fall in Genesis 3, considering the value of God's Law, human conscience and the sacrament of baptism. They will consider the impact of sin and Catholic beliefs about the importance of salvation.	Description	The importance of the message of prophets. Students will explore the challenge of prophecies, such as in their call to repentance, care for the poor and criticism of external religion. Students will consider the importance of John the Baptist's prophecy about Jesus. They will also learn about prophets and founders in other religions.
Lent 1	Galilee to Jerusalem	Lent 2	Desert to Garden
Description	Jesus' ministry on earth established the Kingdom of God. Students will explore how Jesus showed, in his life and teaching, the importance of the most vulnerable and marginalised in society. Students will explore the importance of the anointing of the sick for Catholics today. They will also theme of service and justice in other religions.	Description	An exploration of the challenge of suffering and Christian responses to this. Students will explore this theme through the person of Jesus, considering Jesus' own suffering and death and the meaning of this for Catholics today. They will also consider the value of the sacrament of reconciliation as a response to sin and suffering.

Pentecost 1	To the Ends of the Earth	Pentecost 2	Dialogue and Encounter
Description	The belief in the resurrection. Students will explore beliefs about the resurrection, and the implications of this belief for the Christian belief in life after death. They will explore how beliefs about eternal life are seen both in the sacrament of baptism and in the Catholic funeral rite.	Description	Understanding the importance of engaging in dialogue with those of faith and no faith. Students will explore what the Second Vatican Council means for Catholics and the key messages of Ecclesiam Suam before exploring the different expressions of the Catholic Church around the world.

Religious Studies

Year 9



De Lisle College
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Curriculum Outline

Link to Catholic Social Teaching:

Students will learn that all people are made in God's image and so deserve to be treated as such, expressing the key belief in the dignity of all people.

By considering the role of women within the Bible as prophets, disciples and the mother of Jesus, students are shown the value and contribution of all people, which supports the teaching of subsidiarity.

The work of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and the outreach of organisations such as SVP and CAFOD seek to draw people into relationship with the world and each other so that the goodness of creation can be enjoyed by all. This is the principle of the Common Good.

Advent 1	Creation and Covenant	Advent 2	Prophecy and Promise
Description	An exploration of the dignity of human life. Students will engage with the belief that all humans are created in God's image, which gives humans both freedom and morality. Students will explore the Catholic belief in the sanctity of life and the dignity of the human body, and the expression of this in the sacrament of matrimony.	Description	The importance of women in the Bible. Students will explore first Hannah, found in the Old Testament and draw contrasts with Mary, mother of Jesus. They will explore the prophecies surrounding Mary and the Catholic beliefs about her, as well as the role of holy women in the hope of salvation.
Lent 1	Galilee to Jerusalem	Lent 2	Desert to Garden
Description	A study of the demands and rewards of discipleship. Students will explore what Jesus taught about discipleship and how this was lived out by those who followed him, including women. Students will explore the meaning of vocation today, including through the religious life and Holy Orders.	Description	The significance of Christ's sacrifice. Students will learn about the significance of both Solomon's and Herod's Temples before exploring the beliefs surrounding Christ's sacrifice, and Christ as the New Covenant. Students will engage with the Christian belief that Christ's sacrifice was necessary for forgiveness of sin.

Pentecost 1	To the Ends of the Earth	Pentecost 2	Dialogue and Encounter
Description	The nature of the Church on earth. Students will explore what the Bible teaches about the early Church as well as beliefs about the nature of the Church today. Students will learn about beliefs about the saints and angels and their importance for Catholics.	Description	The importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue. Students will explore how outreach is an important aspect of this work, understanding how organisations such as SVP and CAFOD seek to ensure all share in the Common Good. Students will also study an introduction to Judaism in preparation of their GCSE RS.

GCSE Religious Studies

Year 10



Curriculum Outline

Link to Catholic Social Teaching:

In studying Judaism, and the perspectives of other Christians and atheists and Humanists, students are encouraged to recognise the dignity of all people, to treat their faith and perspectives with respect as humans all made in God's image and likeness.

When exploring the belief in God the creator in Christian and Jewish belief, students will consider the human duty to care for God's creation – stewardship.

When studying the nature of suffering, students will consider the struggle faced by many who suffer deeply and the human response to care for people in need, students will come to understand the importance of solidarity.

Advent 1	Judaism beliefs and teachings	Advent 2	Judaism practices
Description	A study of key principles of Jewish faith. Students will explore a range of Jewish beliefs, such as the nature of God, the meaning of God's covenants with Abraham and Moses, as well as the range of Jewish beliefs about the Messiah and life after death.	Description	An examination of the ways in which Jews live out their faith in daily life. Students will explore a range of practices, such as weekly Shabbat worship, to keeping Kosher and major lifetime events, such as marriage, coming of age and mourning rituals.
Lent 1	Foundational Catholic Theology - Origins and Meaning	Lent 2	Foundational Catholic Theology - Origins and Meaning
Description	An exploration of beliefs about where life came from and the significance of life. Students will explore these ideas from Catholic, other Christian, Jewish and atheist perspectives. They will learn about Catholic teaching on the origin of life, considering the relationship of science and religion, as well as non-religious responses to the religious perspective.	Description	A study of the impact of Catholic beliefs about where life came from. Students will consider issues such as the sanctity of life and abortion; different views on stewardship, the value of love of neighbour and interfaith dialogue. Students will also engage with the theme of creation as seen in Michelangelo's Creation of Adam and the Tree of Life apse.

Pentecost 1	Applied Catholic Theology - Good and Evil	Pentecost 2	Applied Catholic Theology - Good and Evil
Description	A study of the question of why there is suffering in the world. Students will engage with this question using philosophical reasoning from Catholic, other Christian, Jewish and non-religious perspectives. They will consider the belief that suffering can bring goodness, using the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.	Description	A study of the religious responses to suffering. Students will consider the belief in the Trinity, as well as the Christian belief in Jesus as incarnate Son of God and source of authority. Students will consider the use of statues, in worship with a detailed study of Michelangelo's Pieta, as well as religious responses to suffering through praying the rosary and pilgrimage.

GCSE Religious Studies

Year 11



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Curriculum Outline

Link to Catholic Social Teaching:

In discussing end of life care students will consider the importance of ensuring that every person is treated with dignity – that a life is as worthy of respect in its final moments as at any other point.

In studying Pope Francis' teaching on evangelisation in Evangelii Gaudium, students will learn that Pope Francis taught that the first people to receive the Church's help should be the poor – making clear the Church's option for the poor.

In learning about the debate on assisted dying, students will explore the different opinions and ideas – particularly from those who are most vulnerable. This opportunity for the most vulnerable in society to speak and be heard is subsidiarity.

Advent 1	Applied Catholic Theology: Life and Death	Advent 2	Applied Catholic Theology: Life and Death
Description	A study of Catholic belief in life after death. Students will explore Church teaching on Jesus' death and resurrection and the implications of this for Catholics today. Students will study the debate about assisted dying and contrast this with the provision of palliative care.	Description	An exploration of the ways Catholics express beliefs about life after death through liturgy and music. Students will explore how the funeral rite and artefacts such as the Paschal candle and the Sarcophagus with Scenes of the Passion communicate Christian beliefs about life after death.
Lent 1	Applied Catholic Theology: Sin and Forgiveness	Lent 2	Applied Catholic Theology: Sin and Forgiveness
Description	An examination of Catholic belief about forgiveness. Students will explore the differences between sin and crime, as well as learn about different purposes for punishment for crimes. They will explore the different arguments surrounding the debate on the death penalty. Students will explore the difference between absolute and relative morality, as well as consider Jesus' teaching on the value of forgiveness.	Description	A study of the Christian beliefs about salvation. Students will consider the importance, for Christians, of Jesus' sacrifice and the offer of salvation. They will study how this is made evidence in Catholic worship, notably the sacraments and the celebration of Mass but also how these beliefs are shown in Catholic understanding of the nature of the Church and the belief in the value of evangelisation.
Pentecost 1	COURSE COMPLETED	Pentecost 2	COURSE COMPLETED
Description	/	Description	/