

The Aims of Religious Education in Church Schools and Academies

The aims of Religious Education in church schools and academies, as informed by the Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education, are:

- to enable students to encounter Christianity as the religion that shaped British culture and heritage and influences the lives of millions of people today;
- to enable students to learn about other major religions, their impact on culture and politics, art and history, and on the lives of their adherents;
- to develop understanding of religious faith as the search for and expression of truth;
- to contribute to the development of students' own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own faith and beliefs.

The outcomes for students at the end of their education in church schools or academies are that they are able to:

- think theologically and reflect critically on ultimate questions;
- reflect critically on the truth claims within religions and beliefs;
- analyse, interpret and apply sacred texts, particularly the Bible;
- recognise that faith is commitment to a particular way of understanding and responding to God and the world;
- analyse and explain the varied nature and traditions of the Christian community;
- make a well-informed response to Christianity;
- respect those of all religions and beliefs in their search for meaning;
- reflect critically on shared and diverse beliefs and practices*

* DBE Services Framework for Religious Education revised 2018