The Marlborough Science Academy

The Marlborough Science Academy RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY GP 04	
Responsible Governing Body Committee:	**Curriculum Committee**
Policy type:	**Additional**
Date of Origin:	**June 2013**
Adopted by:	
Author:	**Richard Atterton/Emily Del Gaudio**
Location:	
Filename:	

Review Due Date	Review Completed	Amendments Y/N	Version
June 2018	June 2018	Y	
June 2020	June 2021	Y	
June 2023	October 2023	N	
October 2025	January 2026		
January 2028	November 2026	Y	
November 2028			

To be reviewed and ratified by governors

Relationship to Other Policies

- Collective Act of Reflection Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Remote Learning Policy

Purpose:

- To ensure that all legal requirements are met with regard to provision and implementation of teaching Religious Education in school
- To support students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through the study of religions and world views.
- To ensure that Religious Education is taught impartially and promotes mutual respect, understanding and tolerance in line with British values and school values.
- To support students in developing ethical understanding of contemporary issues, including the impact of digital technology and artificial intelligence on beliefs, values and society.

Implementation:

- The school will endeavour to meet the requirements on the amount of curriculum time Religious Education receives for Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, as set out in the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus.
- Religious Education is delivered through Religion, Philosophy and Ethics lessons at Key Stage 3, GCSE and A Level.
- At non-examined Key Stage 4, Religious Education is delivered through Ethical Studies, ensuring continued statutory provision for all students.
- All courses and programmes of study reflect the requirements of the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and the study of religions and world views.
- The school will ensure that the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education is followed and that learning reflects the study of religions and non-religious worldviews.
- Religious Education will be taught impartially, in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding, and will encourage students to develop knowledge, critical thinking and reflection on beliefs, values and ethical issues.
- The school will ensure that government guidelines with regard to staffing are followed and that Religious Education is taught by appropriately supported staff.
- The school will ensure that the correct provision is made for the withdrawal of students from Religious Education at parents'/carers' request in accordance with both the Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus and the DfES official UK guidance on Religious Education in maintained schools in England, and that students may withdraw themselves from Religious Education once they reach the age of 18.
- Parents/carers will be encouraged to discuss any concerns with the Headteacher and/or Head of PRE prior to making a formal request for withdrawal. This is not a requirement as parents/carers do not need to give reasons for withdrawal, but may enable the school to alleviate any concerns parents/carers may have about the curriculum.
- When a student is withdrawn from PRE/ES lessons, the school will fulfil its statutory duty of care by supervising the student, which could include remaining in their original classroom, or being moved to another area of the school under adult supervision. The school is not required to provide alternative academic tutoring or bear additional costs for separate curriculum delivery. Students are expected to work independently, and parents/carers are responsible for providing appropriate, self-directed learning materials for their child to complete quietly during this time under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. It is not a time for catching up on work from other subjects or home learning tasks.

Who / what was consulted:

DfES guidelines, QCA documentation, Hertfordshire SACRE, Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, Governing body

To be reviewed and ratified by governors

Roles and Responsibilities:
The Governing body retains overall responsibility for implementation of the policy.
The Head Teacher has delegated responsibility for day-to-day decision-making on staffing, timetabling, time allocation and withdrawing students.
The Head of Faculty and the Head of Subject should ensure that legal requirements are met with regard to following national and county guidance on syllabus.

Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluation:
There will be a named member of staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating the policy and associated procedures.

To be reviewed and ratified by governors