Lady Manners School



Curriculum Area of Religious Education (RE) and Personal Development Studies (PDS)

OVERVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM AREA

The RE and PDS Curriculum Area is part of the Personal and Physical Development Faculty. This faculty is led by a Director of Learning who oversees three curriculum areas, one of which relates to this post: Curriculum Leader for RE and PDS.

The Personal and Physical Development Faculty (PPD) is collaborative, supportive, and ambitious for its students. The PPD faculty consists of a range of core and examined subjects related to the holistic development of children and young people. We aim to ensure that all students can fulfil their potential and take up their rightful places in the world. Across the faculty, there is a real emphasis on training leaders with the values, knowledge, and skill to face the challenges of tomorrow.

The PPD Faculty incorporates the following curriculum areas, which are led by individual curriculum leaders:

- Religious Education and Personal Development Studies
- Physical Education
- Social Studies (including Health and Social Care, Psychology and Citizenship)

RE/PDS is a highly successful curriculum area renowned for its innovative quality first teaching and promotion of inclusivity. In RE we want students to develop an appreciation and understanding of other cultures and religious traditions through informed empathy. We want students to be able to express their own views and respect those of other people. The department is active, forward thinking and constantly improving to ensure we have young adults fully prepared to work and study in a multicultural society.

Seven full and part-time teachers currently staff the curriculum area, five of whom are RE subject experts. All are highly committed professionals, who always put children first and work together to realise the ambition of outstanding personal development provision across the faculty and school. The curriculum area plays a vital role in promoting SMSC, British Values and understanding of the Equality Act and associated protected characteristics in school.

The curriculum area has 5 dedicated classrooms and is led by the Curriculum Leader who is supported by the Director of Learning. All classrooms have either a projector and screen or an interactive LCD touch screen. Other members of staff are encouraged to take on additional responsibilities to support students and the continued development of the curriculum. All teachers are also encouraged to continue to engage with CPD opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills so that the curriculum area can continue to improve and keep up with the latest evidence-based teaching methods.

THE CURRICULUM

- Religious Education
- Personal Development Studies

Key Stage 3

All students in Key Stage 3 have a one-hour RE lesson and a one-hour PDS lesson. The KS3 RE curriculum follows the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus, which has been further adapted to meet the needs of the unique Lady Manners School catchment. The rich KS3 PDS curriculum covers RSHE, Citizenship, Personal Development and Careers Education.

Key Stage 4

At KS4, students currently follow a Core PDS curriculum, which includes extraction lessons for RE, RSHE, and Citizenship. Some content is also delivered by other curriculum areas or in form time. The model for delivering statutory subjects at KS4 will be reviewed for the 2025/26 academic year and the successful applicant will have an opportunity to contribute to these planned developments. AQA Religious Studies GCSE (Christianity and Buddhism) is a popular option subject at KS4, achieving excellent results.

Key Stage 5

OCR Religious Studies (Philosophy, Ethics, and Developments in Christian Thought) achieves excellent results that are regularly in the ALPS 2-3 range.

Core PD (including RE) is also provided by the Sixth Form pastoral team in a weekly lesson. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work with Sixth Form pastoral leaders to develop this curriculum further.