

PGCE Secondary Religious Education

Why Train with us?

This programme has been designed to prepare you as an R.E. specialist able to teach R.E. in a range of secondary school contexts. The intention is that you become a confident, competent, enthusiastic, innovative and reflective teacher of R.E. who is able to enthuse and inspire young people. In order to gain your PGCE you must meet the standards set out in 'Qualifying to Teach' (TDA 0202). Having completed this course successfully you will be qualified to teach Religious Education at Key Stages 3 and 4, with post 16 enhancement.

Perhaps more than any other subject on the curriculum, Religious Education has been affected by changes in our communities. Locally, nationally and globally our worlds have changed and are changing at a rate that is both alarming and exhilarating.

Since the 1988 Education Reform Act it is stated in law for the first time that Religious Education has to give attention to the plurality of the nation. On an international level inter-faith dialogue has come to assume a new significance. Hans Kung, the German Roman Catholic theologian, has recently commented that there can be no peace among the nations until there is peace between the religions a comment made all the more pertinent since the events of September 11th.

In the face of these developments Religious Education has emerged as a vibrant, exciting subject fully prepared to meet its challenges. Both in addressing important issues in our society, and assisting young people with their moral and spiritual development, RE is proving itself to be a colourful, enjoyable and vitally important subject area.

About this course

The course includes the following topics:

The nature of religions and of religious education; key concepts, practices, festivals, rites, stories and figures in the six major world faiths: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism; legal status of RE; purposes and uses of the SCAA/QCA model syllabuses and local agreed syllabuses; planning and progression; classroom approaches, pupil management and resources; appropriate uses of ICT in planning and teaching RE; ultimate questions, spirituality and learning from religion; language and literacy in RE; assessment and attainment in RE; homework, recording and reporting in RE; Issues for development in planning, learning and teaching and classroom management; uses of ICT in monitoring, recording and planning progression in RE; types of special educational needs in RE and approaches to meeting the needs; RE's contribution to multi-cultural and anti-racist education, SMSC,

Citizenship and PSHE; planning differentiation and progression for KS 3-4 and 4-5; departmental management, recording and reporting; cross-curricular opportunities in RE; research issues in RE.

Special features

In addition to enhancing your subject knowledge so that it fits the national curriculum in your subject, you will also

- learn effective classroom management and communication skills
- find out how to use ICT in teaching and planning
- go on a 'special issues placement' in a totally different education environment, looking at a cutting-edge educational issue
- develop skills and awareness in research into education

Assessment

A variety of formative and summative assessment strategies will be used including discussions, seminar presentations, teaching demonstrations, practical workshops sessions, lectures, tutorials and independent written assignments; all of which relate directly to the development of relevant skills and techniques and contribute to security and confidence in subject knowledge and its application within an educational context.

Keys to success include the ability to make the most of all the learning opportunities that come your way during the year and being prepared to try new things, regardless of your previous knowledge and experience.

More information

For more information about the programme, course content or applications, please contact The Academic Registry on 01522 583658 or email info@bishopg.ac.uk