

## **British Values in RE**

Y7 pupils begin by studying 'Ursuline beliefs and values' and how they affect the way an Ursuline student should behave and how they influenced the lives of St Ursula and St Angela Merici. In addition to the core values of Serviam, respect, kindness, generosity, perseverance and gratitude, they consider the idea that all humans are made in the image of God and the implications of this beliefs for equality between men and women and the rich and the poor, using the example of St Angela Merici as a model. Through the 'Authority' module they study the important of obeying civil and religious laws and the importance of using one's free will correctly. They also complete a detailed study of Hinduism and how the religion affects lives. Finally, through the module 'Church History' Year 7 are taught to understand why Christianity is made up of different denominations and to understand the religion's roots through the analogy of a tree.

Y8 pupils begin with a detailed study of Judaism, first in terms of how it links to Christianity and then in terms of how modern Jewish people live their lives. Emphasis is made on the common roots within the Judaeo-Christian tradition. The girls spend half a term on the Philanthropy Project and how it can be seen as Catholic Social Teaching in action. In the module 'good vs evil' the girls study the role of an informed conscience when making ethical decisions.

Year 9 pupils spend half a term on a detailed study of Islam and how it affects lives. In this module Islamophobia is also addressed and pupils study controversial topics such as the role of women and Muslim attitudes to war in order to distinguish between the mainstream teachings from the Qur'an and those of radical extremists. Several Year 9 pupils then use their expertise to help deliver assemblies to the lower years.

The GCSE course involves a detailed study of a variety of both religious and ethical topics from both a Catholic and a Jewish perspective. Moral issues include sex and relationships, issues of poverty, inequality and discrimination, environmental ethics, medical ethics, the ethics of war, the extent to which religion should be made explicit and punishment. Religious issues include beliefs about God, the afterlife, duties and rites of passage. Pupils are encouraged to articulate their own beliefs while being tolerant of those of others; respecting them by truly understanding them. In Year 11 pupils study the importance of both secular and religious laws and the role of conscience and scripture.