

Withdrawal from Religious Education

We note the right of parents/carers to withdraw their children from RE. We aim to provide an open curriculum which can be taught to all children, by all staff.

How to request withdrawal of a child from Religious Education

Teachers are asked to refer to the Principal any questions from parents/carers about withdrawals. Requests for full or partial withdrawal from RE should be made in writing to the Principal and a record kept of them.

The written request for withdrawal must specify whether the child is to be withdrawn from

- Religious Education lessons
- School assemblies
- Visits to places of worship
- Class productions with religious themes

Discussions with parents/carers following the request to withdraw

The Principal will seek to discuss the process with parents/carers.

They will explain the approach to RE at Ashwood Spencer Academy:

- It is not indoctrinating or nurturing children in a faith or promoting any belief system;
- RE makes a significant contribution to children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Please note

- If a child is withdrawn, the school has a duty of care to look after them, but not to provide alternative education. Any alternative arrangements must not incur extra cost for the school.
- Whilst parents/carers have a right to withdraw their child from RE, they should note that they may also encounter religions and beliefs and wider aspects of faith in other areas of the curriculum from which there is no right of withdrawal.
- On occasion, spontaneous questions about religious matters are raised by children or issues related to religion arise in other curriculum subjects such as history or PSHE. For example, schools promote community cohesion and help children to understand ideas about identity and diversity, feelings and emotions within both religious and non-religious contexts.

It is the parent's/carer's responsibility to inform the school of any changes relating to the above.