

DEFINING GREAT RE: KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & DISPOSITION

WHAT IS GREAT RE?

Great Religious Education balances knowledge, skills, and dispositions so pupils don't just know about religions and worldviews, but also learn how to think and how to be.

- Knowledge: Substantive (what people believe and do) & disciplinary (how we study religion).
- Skills: Interpretation, analysis, critical thinking, dialogue, empathy.
- Dispositions: Respect, openness, curiosity, reflection

TRY IT IN THE CLASSROOM

Lesson Planning Lens: When designing a lesson, ask: What knowledge will pupils gain? What skills will they practise? What dispositions will they develop?

Dialogue Practice: Build in structured opportunities for pupils to listen and respond to different perspectives.

Reflection Task: Encourage pupils to connect what they've learned with their own values and experiences.

FOR LEADERS

Ensure schemes of work highlight all three elements: **knowledge, skills, dispositions**.

Provide CPD to help staff balance factual content with critical and reflective activities.

Show how great **RE contributes to SMSC, British Values**, and wider character education

WHY THIS BALANCE MATTERS IN RE

Curriculum Strength – Moves RE beyond surface content into deeper enquiry.

Critical Thinking – Equips pupils to interpret, evaluate, and question meaning.

Personal Growth – Fosters empathy, respect, and reflection in diverse classrooms.

